

# THE HAPPY LINGUIST

LIFE HACKS ON HOW TO BE FLUENT  
IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

FROM THE CREATOR OF

**3** MINUTE  
LANGUAGES

[WWW.3MINUTE.CLUB](http://WWW.3MINUTE.CLUB)

**KIERAN BALL**

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Bonjour, hola, hallo, ciao, olá and hello! I'm Kieran, a language tutor based in the UK, and I wrote this book as a guide to help new language learners achieve their goals of being able to speak a foreign language confidently and fluently.

In this book, I've included some hints and tips that helped me and many of my students in our language learning journeys. I've also included the first few lessons of each of my language courses: "3 Minute Languages". I've done this for two reasons, one reason is because I've read many books over the years on language learning, and I always hated getting to the end of a language learning book without actually having learnt any foreign language at all. So, at least by the time you reach the end of this book, you will have learnt a little French, Spanish, German, Italian and Portuguese! The second reason I've included the first few lessons of each of my language courses is more of a selfish one; I'm hoping you'll read the first few lessons and get lured into one of the languages and want to learn more. Then I'm hoping you'll mosey on down to my website ([www.3minute.club](http://www.3minute.club)) and order some of my language books or maybe sign up to one of my online courses 😊 (called "3 Minute Languages" and "Building Structures" just in case you were wondering!).

But anyway, learning a language is a tough thing to do and you can often feel like you're getting nowhere fast. Well, let me tell you that the feeling of frustration is a normal one that everybody goes through when learning a new language. When you learn any other subject such as maths or science, you tend to learn how to do something and then that's it. However, with foreign languages, you learn how to use them but then there's another step; you have to be able to use them instantly, and this is what can cause the greatest frustration.

If you learn maths, for example, and somebody asks you to work out the missing angle in a triangle, you would be able to do it if you sit down with a piece of paper, a pencil and possibly a calculator. Nobody would expect you to work out the answer in three seconds in your head. Yet, with languages, that's exactly what you have to do. In order to speak a language fluently, you have to be able to formulate sentences in an instant. In a conversation, you have no time to sit and conjugate verbs or search for vocabulary in a dictionary. You have to be able to do it all in your head in a split second or else the conversation gets jilted and feels awkward.

Well, very soon after I began teaching languages, I realised that this tricky thing called fluency is what everybody strives to achieve. There are few things

as satisfying as being able to hold a conversation in a foreign language when you're on holiday abroad, no matter how basic, it always leaves you feeling positive about your achievements. So, I developed a methodology that enables you to speak confidently and string sentences together from the very first lesson. The most important thing when learning anything is to get an instant feeling of success. If you feel like you're succeeding as soon as you begin, you're going to want to carry on, and that motivation is what will lead you to fluency.

This introduction is starting to drag on a little now, so let me end it by saying this:

We are all human beings, which means we all possess the attributes that make us human beings. There's a wonderful quote by a man called Terence:

*"I am human, and nothing that is human is alien to me"*

What it means is that if one person is capable of something, then we are all capable of it, because we're all humans too. There's nothing in the world that I cannot understand if somebody before me has succeeded in understanding it. Therefore, it's only logical that since there are millions of people in the world who have managed to learn to speak a foreign language, then you can learn it too!

I used to get so jealous of people who could speak a foreign language. I would listen to them and think that I would never be as good as they were. I'm lucky that I never gave up, though, because the benefits and positive feelings of being able to speak in another tongue far outweigh the frustration and negative feelings you tend to feel along the way. Just believe in yourself and you will achieve whatever you want. You will have doubts over your abilities and you will feel like giving up, but that's normal! Just persevere and keep learning more and more and more and you will be amazed at what you can do (plus everybody else will be impressed).

Anyway, philosophising over. Let's begin.

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# THE 3 MINUTE LIFE HACK

*“Learn a language in three minutes?  
That sounds stupid”*

I often get told that when I first tell people the name of my language courses (3 Minute Languages, just in case you forgot 😊) But yes, three minutes is the key to learning a language. Let me tell you why.

When most people start studying for anything, they tend to spend the first day or two studying for hours and hours and get through loads of work, however, very quickly this begins to dwindle. You might feel like spending hours studying a foreign language, which is great, but you want that feeling of motivation to continue. However, your motivation won't continue if you actually spend hours studying. So the first life hack that I suggest when learning a language is to limit your study time to chunks of just three minutes. No more!

If you limit your studying to just three minute chunks, there are three things that will happen...

## **1. You'll maintain your enthusiasm**

If you want to learn anything, you have to maintain

enthusiasm or else you won't continue. If you limit your study time to just three minutes, you'll keep French fresh and exciting and you'll be eager to learn. If you spend hours studying, very quickly you'll get bored with the foreign language and it'll turn into a chore.

## **2. You'll study more consistently**

It's much better to study for just three minutes once a day than to study for three hours once a week. A spare three minutes is relatively easy to find even in the most hectic of schedules. If you make sure you complete at least one three minute study session every day, it'll quickly become a habit that you'll do without thinking. It's much easier to fit in a daily three minute habit than a weekly one hour habit. By doing this, you'll become a much more consistent learner, and consistency is the key to success.

## **3. You'll remember things better**

This is my favourite reason as to why you should limit your study to just three minute chunks. If you study something for just three minutes every day, you'll trick your brain into memorising the information more quickly than if it were to see the information for hours each day. It'll think, "I see this information every day so it must be important, but I don't see it for very long so I'd better hold onto it

and make it into a memory fast!" You'll be amazed at how much more easily things tend to stay in your brain if you limit yourself to just three minutes a day.

So, three minutes is the key! Set a timer, and once you reach three minutes, stop. Then give yourself at least half an hour before you do another three minutes. You should aim to do at least one three minute chunk every day, any more than that is a bonus, but one is fine. Just read through this book and complete the exercises, that's all. You'll be amazed at how much you learn.

# I LOVE CUE CARDS

## A MUST-HAVE TOOL FOR LEARNING VOCABULARY

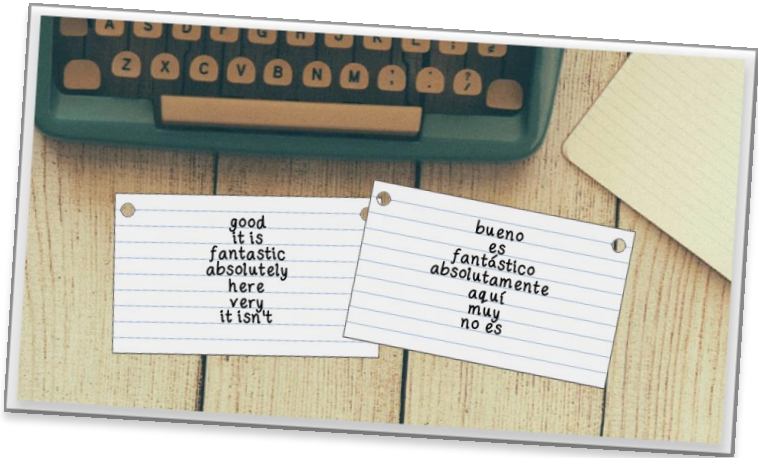
Whenever I get a new student, one thing I always recommend is cue cards. Cue cards are an extremely useful tool when learning languages, and I use them myself all the time. They play an indispensable role in memorising new vocabulary.

In my 3 Minute Languages courses, each lesson gives you a handful of new words and phrases, and then you get the opportunity to practise them by putting them into sentences. To aid the learning process and to make the new words into memories more quickly, what you can do is get some cue cards. You can find cue cards in most stationery shops or even online, however, if you can't find any, just cut up some pieces of paper into smallish rectangles and they'll do the same job.

After each lesson, grab a cue card and write down any new words you have learnt. You should do this in a very specific way. For effective memorisation, you should write the new words in English down the middle of one side of the cue card, then turn it over and write the words in French (or whichever

language you're learning) down the middle of the other side.

If you look at the picture below, you can see what the cue card for the first 3 Minute Spanish lesson would look like.



The reason you should write the English on one side and the other language on the other side is so that, when you practise, you can read through the words on the English side and try to guess the French words. For example, if you see "fantastic", then you can think, "fantastique".

In the full 3 Minute Languages: Course 1, there are nine lessons, so you will have nine cue cards filled

with words and phrases. You should look at these cue cards every day for just a few minutes. Only ever look at the English side and try and guess the words in your new language. Only turn it over if you really can't think of the foreign word. It will help to embed the new words and phrases in your mind.

Obviously, going through the words on the cue cards isn't going to take more than a few seconds, so what you can also do is build a few sentences in your mind for each word you come across. For example, if you come to the word "good", you can try and say things like "it is good", "it is always very good here" or "it isn't very good". Say these sentences out loud (if nobody is around!) to help get your tongue around the language. It will make it much easier for you when you actually come to use the words and phrases in a real life situation.

So, cue cards are a great way to memorise the new words and phrases you get from each lesson. Look at them every day, only look at the English side and try to guess the other language, and try and build a few sentences that you could use for each word.

## WHAT IF I STILL CAN'T REMEMBER THE WORDS?

Sometimes, even with the cue cards, there will be one or two (or maybe three or four!) words that just won't stick in your head, no matter what you do! Don't worry; it's perfectly normal, but there is something you can do about it.

# WORDS THAT JUST WON'T STICK IN YOUR BRAIN

When you're learning a lot of new words at once, there will often be the odd few words that you just cannot seem to remember.

What you should do first is make a list of those words you're struggling with and start to tackle them one word at a time, using this technique.

Grab a small piece of paper and write the word you can't remember, in English, in the centre. Fold the piece of paper up and put it in your pocket. Don't write the word in any language other than English.

A few times a day, take out the piece of paper and look at the English word, and try to remember what it is in the language you're learning. The first few times, you might have to watch one of the 3 Minute Languages videos again or look through your cue cards to find the word, but having to do this each time will annoy your brain, since it's a lot of effort. Consequently, your brain will start to make the word into a memory just to make things easier for you.



## **BUILD SENTENCES, TOO**

Each time you take the piece of paper out, try and remember the foreign word, but also try and think of a sentence that you could use that word in. For example, if the word you struggle to remember is "very". Write "very" in the middle of the paper and then whenever you take it out of your pocket, make up a sentence such as "it is very good" or "it is very good here" or "it is always very good" and say them out loud in the foreign language. By making sentences, it will give the words more relevance in your mind, making them easier to remember.

This technique is something you should only do with any words that won't go in after trying the cue card techniques. You'll find that the majority of words will go into your brain and become memorised quite easily, but there will always be a couple that won't.

## **TACKLE ONLY ONE WORD AT A TIME**

If there is more than one word that won't go into your brain, the important thing is to tackle just one of them at a time. Don't put more than one word on that piece of paper you put into your pocket.

## DON'T TRY TOO HARD

Finally, I have just one last quick note about this technique. You should only use this technique for a couple of days with each word. If you find that, even after two days, the word still doesn't go in, then stop! This is because, if you spend too long trying to remember the word, it will become an issue for you and every time you see it, you'll think, "Oh no, it's that word again!". Sometimes, giving yourself a break can work wonders; just because you've stopped consciously thinking about something doesn't mean your brain isn't subconsciously thinking about it. A lot of the time, I've found that I can remember those tricky words better, if I actively try to forget them. I just ignore it for a few weeks, then when I look at it again, it's already been internalised!

Once you have all the words memorised, what do you do then? Well, this is when the fun part begins because you actually get to use the language! This is biggest reason anybody chooses to learn a new language; they want to actually use it when they go travelling. However, this can also be one of the biggest challenges. Well, it was for me.

# HOW TO GROW YOUR CONFIDENCE

The fear of speaking in a new language is very often something that holds us back from making the progress we're capable of.

You can know a foreign language inside out and back to front, but that doesn't mean it's going to be easy when it comes to actually using it. One of the biggest hurdles that I had to overcome when speaking a foreign language for the first time was confidence. I was so shy that I was always too embarrassed to say anything. However, once I broke down that barrier for the first time, my language skills got stronger and stronger and my confidence grew enormously. There are a couple of things you can do to help to break down the confidence barrier.

## HAVING THINGS TO SAY

When you learn a foreign language, you also have to learn how to have conversations. With our native language, we sort of learn this naturally as we go along and, even then, some people are great conversationalists, whilst others aren't so great. Well, one part of being a good conversationalist is

always having something to say.

Before you next go away on holiday, write down five sentences that you can use during the first couple of days in the new country.

I'll give you five examples in French:

**C'est très bon**

*it's very good*

**C'est absolument fantastique**

*it's absolutely fantastic*

**C'est beau ici**

*it's beautiful here*

**Ça c'est pour moi**

*that is for me*

**Ce n'est pas pour moi**

*it isn't for me*

These are just five short and simple sentences that you could use in lots of different situations, but you should make up your own sentences that you know you will use. If you prepare five things, you will be more likely to use them. Now, I'm not saying that this will be easy, because it won't! It certainly wasn't for me.

## IT'S NOT AN EASY THING

The first time I said anything in Spanish, I was nervous, I was stumbling over my words, my mouth was dry, I was a mess! In my head, I had come up with so many reasons why I shouldn't say anything.

*What if I don't understand what's being said back?*

*What if they don't understand me?*

*What if they think I'm weird for trying to speak Spanish?*

*What if they speak English anyway?*

But I finally did it and it felt amazing! Once you get over the hurdle, you realise it's not that scary after all. So, just have a go; you'll be so glad you did and it will get easier each time you say something. Don't think about anything that could go wrong, just try your best and hope for the best. If something goes wrong, oh well; everybody makes mistakes; we're human! I know I have made many mistakes, but it's through our mistakes that we learn to improve.

So, your first challenge as a new language learner is to write down five short sentences and you have to say them within the first two days of your holiday abroad. Force yourself to do it, no matter how nervous you are. You'll feel amazing afterwards!

# YOU DON'T NEED TO TRAVEL

## IS FOREIGN TRAVEL NECESSARY FOR LEARNING A LANGUAGE?

I studied languages at university, and a requirement of the course was to spend a year living abroad. I really didn't want to go! I think I was probably the only person on my course who wasn't looking forward to spending time abroad. I was extremely nervous, enormously shy and I had never really spent any length of time living away from home by myself. I begged and pleaded with the university lecturers, asking them if I could skip the "year abroad" section of my course. They said that if I wanted my degree, I would have to spend some time living abroad.

I was very different to most people on my course; I was merely learning languages because I loved languages. I loved learning about how languages worked; I loved learning the grammar and new vocabulary. I had no goal in mind. I loved writing essays in French, giving presentations in Spanish and reading poetry in Italian. However, I was never really drawn to actually using the language in real life situations (I have since become very drawn to this aspect of language learning).

In the year prior to living abroad, we did a lot of preparation; we met final year students who had just come back to England after living abroad, and we learnt about what to expect. Despite my reluctance to go abroad, I could see that it would benefit my language skills enormously. I knew that I would come back home practically fluent, so that was what I focused on. Well, my language skills did improve immensely, but not for the reasons that you might imagine.

During my year abroad, I might as well have been living in a bubble. I remember we were told to integrate into the local society and not to waste our year abroad. Well, I did not integrate, at all. I did the opposite of integrate. I became a recluse. I was a happy recluse, but I was a recluse nonetheless. If I ever did go out and attempt to socialise, I didn't say a word to anybody, I mainly sat and listened. I would look on Facebook at other people on their year abroad and see them all integrating beautifully; they were going out, making friends, and making an effort to fit in. I remember thinking in my last week, "Oh no, I've wasted my year abroad. Everybody else will come back fluent and I'll be worse than when I left."



When we all got back to England, we were told that we would have to give a twenty minute presentation in each language, describing what we got up to and if and how we thought our language skills had improved.

I couldn't sleep thinking about this presentation. I thought, "Everybody is going to speak perfect Spanish and I'll get up and sound like a Neanderthal."

I gave my presentation, and afterwards, my lecturer came and spoke to me, saying how impressed she was at the improvement of my Spanish. She said I had obviously used my time abroad wisely and that my Spanish had improved immensely. I couldn't believe it. I found it very hard to get out of the room after that as my head had grown so enormously large that it wouldn't fit through the door!

## **HERE'S WHAT I DID DURING MY YEAR ABROAD**

When I lived abroad, I basically became a recluse. I didn't really mix with many people; the only people I really spoke to in Spanish were my landlady and the shopkeeper. So how did my Spanish improve so much? Well, what living as a recluse gave me was a lot of free time.

- I studied grammar, in depth
- I watched the local TV, little and often
- I watched foreign language YouTube videos, the same ones again and again
- I mimicked the people on YouTube, I would mimic their accents accurately
- I eavesdropped other people's conversations (people living below me, people in the street)
- I had imaginary conversations with myself, I imagined I was being interviewed
- I read newspaper articles, mainly stupid articles about Mariah Carey and Shakira or I would read Perros magazine

All of these things were really things that I could have easily done back in England. Of course, I could have utilised my time abroad a lot more effectively, but the point is, living abroad isn't a necessity if you want to become fluent in a foreign language. In today's modern world, we have access to all sorts of material.

YouTube offers videos in every language you can imagine, you can get hold of foreign television shows quite easily (for example, if you visit [www.tf1.fr](http://www.tf1.fr), you can watch live French TV, or if you go to [www.rtve.es](http://www.rtve.es), you can watch live Spanish TV). You can go to Google and click on "News" and then

change the language to any language you wish to find foreign newspaper articles on any topic.

So, spending time abroad isn't necessary, but I'm not saying that it doesn't have huge benefits; it does! If you get the chance to go abroad, there are lots of things you can do.

## **GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR HOLIDAY - PREPARATION**

Whenever you do get the opportunity to spend time in a country where they speak the language you're learning, you want to make the most of it. A little preparation can go a long way in making your experience a very memorable one.

You should try and prepare a list of things to say and where you're going to use them. This list needn't be an endless list; just five or six things to start with is perfect. Write down sentences with things that you know you'll use and then spend a day or so before your holiday reading them out loud to get your tongue around them.

Think about where you could use these sentences. Here are a few examples:

**“The food here is always absolutely delicious”** – you could say this if there’s a particular restaurant you go to a few times. I’ve used this one plenty of times and have often found myself with a free drink or a dessert on the house because of it!

**“I would like the chicken for me and the paella for him, please”** – this sort of sentence is always useful and can be modified easily. Once you memorise the construction, you’ll be able to rattle it off with no problems.

**“Do you have any cheese?”** – again, this is another one of those sentences that can be changed easily. You can change “cheese” to anything but the question structure remains the same.

All of these sentences are things that could start a mini-conversation with somebody. It doesn’t really matter if you don’t quite understand everything or even anything of what’s being said back to you. The more you listen, the more your ear will tune into the language. There were many times when I first learnt a language where I had no idea what was being said to me in a conversation. I often felt deflated that I couldn’t understand, but every time I had a conversation, it got me a little step closer to where I am now. I had to go through lots of failed conversations to achieve fluency.

You should make sure you take every opportunity to speak, no matter what. Even if, in your own language, you wouldn't say something, you should say it in the foreign language. You might know where the toilet is in a restaurant, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't ask the waiter where it is anyway. You might not think the food was "absolutely delicious" but it's better to say that when the waiter asks if your meal was OK than just saying "yes".

The more you speak as soon as you arrive in the foreign country, the easier it will get because your confidence will begin to grow. Even just a few days spent abroad will do wonders for your language skills.

One man I taught told me that he was so nervous on the plane journey to Spain. He was really panicking because his wife was expecting him to speak lots of Spanish but his nerves made him think he was going to fail. He said as soon as he got to the airport, he went straight to the car rental shop without his wife and said, "Hola, ¿qué tal?" to the lady at the counter. This means "Hello, how are you?" in Spanish. He said the lady looked up and smiled and said, "muy bien" meaning "very good." He was so elated that he had spoken Spanish that

he booked the car completely in Spanish and then couldn't wait to talk to somebody else. His confidence was boosted just by that first little utterance and his wife told me that he was speaking Spanish to anybody who would listen after that!

So, speak the foreign language the moment you arrive and speak to anybody who will listen. Speak to airport staff, speak to shopkeepers, cleaners, hotel workers, pool cleaners, anybody. The more you speak, the better you'll get.

# YOU WILL FAIL, A LOT!

The best language learners are those who are OK with making mistakes. If you're a perfectionist, you may find it harder to reach fluency. Here's why...

Over the years, I have taught a lot of people from all walks of life. I've taught people of all ages and of all sorts of educational backgrounds. What I have found is that everybody can learn to speak a language. However, I have also found that certain people learn languages more quickly than others, and it is always down to just one thing...a fear of failure.

**DON'T BE SCARED OF FAILURE; IF YOU HAVEN'T FAILED, YOU WILL NEVER SUCCEED**

When you learn to speak a foreign language, you have to get used to one thing, failure. You will fail. You will fail every day.

The word "fail" comes from the Latin word "fallere" meaning "to disappoint", "to lack" or even "to fall over". Well, this is what I mean when I say, "You will fail". You will make mistakes, you will trip over your words, you will pick the wrong word, you will forget words, you will say the wrong thing, and you will

feel disappointed with yourself a lot. However, this isn't a bad thing.

When I learnt my first foreign language, French, I was extremely jealous of everybody who could speak fluently. I never dreamed I would reach their level of skill. I remember one time when I was in Spain with my friend. She had been living in Spain for six months when I arrived and a man shouted something to us in the street. All I heard was, "Blah blah blah." I couldn't understand a word he said. My friend shouted back to him and then she laughed. I pretended I knew what was going on so I laughed too, but really I was completely lost. I was so jealous of her and I thought, "I'm never going to be able to understand anything."

A few weeks later, however, I was able to understand everything that was being said around me. It takes a while for your ear to tune itself into the language. Sometimes, you will get angry at yourself and annoyed that you can't understand, but you shouldn't. If you could understand a foreign language the first time you hear it, you'd be some sort of magician. The first few times you hear a foreign language, you probably won't even pick up one word, but then as you listen to more and more, you'll understand one word, then two words, then maybe four or five words, until you can



understand whole sentences and paragraphs and entire conversations! But it takes time and is a gradual process.

You can speed up this process by listening to as much radio or watching as much TV as you can in the foreign language. Just getting used to the rhythm and intonation of the language is a useful thing to do. See how many words you can pick up. YouTube is a great website for this; you can watch the same video over and over, you can even slow it down. Watch it the first time and see if you can pick out just one word. Then, watch the same video again, then the next day, then a week later, and see if you can pick out more words each time.

Anyway, I've digressed a little; I was talking about failing and why it's a good thing. You need to experience "failure" in speaking a foreign language in order to stop being scared of it. Here's a simple exercise you can do, and one that I've done with lots of my students.

Think of a really simple sentence and write it down. Then, change one little bit so there is a mistake in it. You could try switching some words around, leaving a word out completely or putting a made up word in the middle. You should then say this sentence to somebody when you're abroad and

see what they say. Most of the time, they will still understand what you mean despite the mistake. Sometimes, the mistake might be so big it makes the meaning of the sentence hard to understand. But I bet that the person you're speaking to will still try their hardest to understand what you want to say. I've done this with a lot of my students and they always tell me that the other person still understood them, or sometimes they even went out of their way to teach them the correct way to say something.

The reason I make my students do this, is so that they can see that, even if they make a mistake, most people are nice and will help them out. A mistake is not the end of the world. A mistake is a learning moment. It will be a bigger situation in your own head than it is for the other person, and oftentimes, you will make sure you never make that mistake again.

The worst thing that can happen when you make a mistake when speaking a foreign language is that you get a little bit embarrassed, but so what? The only time it might be an issue is if it's a medical emergency, but other than that, you should always try and get your point across in the foreign language. It may take a few attempts but you will get better. So, go out and make mistakes and

improve. Once you get over the fear of failure, fluency will be achieved a lot more quickly.

## DO CHILDREN LEARN LANGUAGES BETTER THAN ADULTS?

A lot of my adult students say to me, "Oh, I wish I had learnt a language as a child, they just pick it up so easily". But is that really true?

I always used to simply agree with my students, saying, "Yes, they do." It is such a consensus of opinion that children are like sponges and pick up languages easily, that I never used to think about it. But then one day, I started teaching a family. I was teaching the older children various subjects and helping them with their exams, but there was also a six month old girl in the house. Every week, I would notice how the baby was growing and learning to speak English.

I taught the family for about five years and so I got to see how the baby developed language skills at regular intervals. At first, I was amazed that each week, she had learnt a new word or phrase. At about the age of three, she was forming sentences and telling little stories. Then I started to actually think about it.

The baby was surrounded by English from the moment she was born. All day, every day, there

were English people talking to her and, a lot of the time, they were talking very slowly to her. Yet, still, despite this complete immersion, it took her three years to formulate pretty basic sentences. I started to wonder, "Do children really learn better than adults?"

I've taught languages to children and adults, and I must admit that I haven't noticed that children learn better or faster. In fact, I would say the opposite was true. Adults seem to grasp concepts more quickly and seem to remember words better.

A forty year old English person speaks far better English than a five year old English person. They have had a lot more practice. When you speak to a young child, if you speak too quickly, they don't understand. Very young children don't understand a lot of jokes or a lot of nuances, especially those that include a play on words. That's because they don't know as much English yet.

This knowledge is useful when learning a foreign language. The better you know your own language, the more easily you can learn another language. If you know the grammar of your own language inside out and understand why things are done as they are, then learning another language becomes a lot easier.

From what I've found, children do not learn languages more easily than adults. The only reason it seems like they do is because they have a lot more free time. Adults tend to have jobs, responsibilities, busy lives and a lot on things on their mind. This means they can't spend as much time as children do on learning. Children spend six or seven hours every day in school, where their only responsibility is to fill their head with knowledge.

So, next time you wish you were younger, well, you'll be wishing away all the knowledge you've accumulated that makes language learning easier. When people say children learn languages more easily than adults, it's only because children don't have jobs! This is one of the reasons why I structured my "3 Minute Languages" courses into three minute chunks. A three minute chunk every day is quite easy to find, even in the most hectic schedule. If you can be consistent in learning a little every single day, then you will learn much more quickly and much more effectively than if you learn just once a week, no matter how many hours you spend in that one sitting.

# 3 MINUTE LANGUAGES TASTER LESSONS

As promised, here are the first few lessons from each of my 3 Minute Languages courses. If you enjoy the lessons and would like to get more, you can find the books on Amazon (just search for "3 Minute French" or whichever language you desire.)

Alternatively, you can sign up to the audio-visual versions of the courses by visiting my website [www.3minute.club](http://www.3minute.club)

In order, the following lessons are from:

[3 Minute French – Lessons 1-3](#)

[3 Minute Spanish – Lessons 1-3](#)

[3 Minute German – Lessons 1-3](#)

[3 Minute Italian – Lessons 1-3](#)

[3 Minute Portuguese – Lessons 1-3](#)

If you click one of the links above, you'll be taken straight to the appropriate page.

Enjoy...

# 3 MINUTE FRENCH

## LESSON 1

Here's your first word in French:

bon

It means "good"

*You pronounce it "bon(g)"*

*I've put the 'g' in brackets because you say this word  
like the word "bong" but without the 'g' on the end.*

*You can't even really hear the 'n' either.*



Here's your next word:

**c'est**

It means "it is"  
*You pronounce it "say"*

How would you say this in French?

It is good.

It is good.  
C'est bon.

You'll start to notice similarities between French and English words:

fantastique

It means "fantastic"  
*You pronounce it "fon-tass-teek"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bon - *good*

c'est - *it is*

fantastique - *fantastic*

How would you say this in French?

It is fantastic.

It is fantastic.  
C'est fantastique.

Here's another word that looks similar to English:

**absolument**

It means "absolutely"  
*You pronounce it "ab-so-loo-mon"*



## WORD LIST SO FAR

bon - *good*

c'est - *it is*

fantastique - *fantastic*

absolument - *absolutely*

How would you say this in French?

It is absolutely fantastic.

It is absolutely fantastic.  
C'est absolument  
fantastique.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bon - *good*

c'est - *it is*

fantastique - *fantastic*

absolument - *absolutely*

Here's a cute little French word:

**ici**

It means "here"  
*You pronounce it "isseeey"*

How would you say this in French?

It is here.

It is here.  
C'est ici.

How would you say this in French?

It is good here.



It is good here.  
C'est bon ici.

How would you say this in French?

It is fantastic here.

It is fantastic here.  
C'est fantastique ici.

How would you say this in French?

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

C'est absolument  
fantastique ici.

Here's a word you might recognize if you've learnt any French before:

très

It means "very"  
*You pronounce it "tray"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bon - *good*

c'est - *it is*

fantastique - *fantastic*

absolument - *absolutely*

ici - *here*

très - *very*

How would you say this in French?

It is very good.



It is very good.  
C'est très bon.

How would you say this in French?

It is very good here.

It is very good here.  
C'est très bon ici.

très

You might be wondering what that little line is on top of the è in très.

It's called an accent. Don't worry about it for the time being; we'll look at it in detail in a later lesson. Just remember to write it on in the word "très".

The word "c'est" means "it is", well, here's the opposite:

**ce n'est pas**

It means "it isn't"  
*You pronounce it "se nay pah"*

How would you say this in French?

It isn't here.

It isn't here.  
Ce n'est pas ici.

How would you say this in French?

It isn't good.



It isn't good.  
Ce n'est pas bon.

How would you say this in French?

It isn't very good.

It isn't very good.  
Ce n'est pas très bon.

How would you say this in French?

It isn't fantastic.

It isn't fantastic.  
Ce n'est pas fantastique.

How would you say this in French?

It isn't very good here.

It isn't very good here.  
Ce n'est pas très bon ici.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bon - *good*

c'est - *it is*

fantastique - *fantastic*

absolument - *absolutely*

ici - *here*

très - *very*

ce n'est pas - *it isn't*



You've learnt quite a few words and phrases in French now, and you've hopefully been saying them out loud so that you can master the pronunciation. Now, to really embed these words and phrases in your brain, let's do some translations.

I've put some sentences in English below. Try and work out how to say them in French, and then check to see if you got it right by checking the answers on the next page.

1. It's good
2. It's absolutely fantastic here
3. It's good here
4. It is very good
5. It isn't good here
6. It isn't good; it's fantastic
7. It's fantastic
8. It's fantastic here
9. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
10. It's very good here

1. C'est bon
2. C'est absolument fantastique ici
3. C'est bon ici
4. C'est très bon
5. Ce n'est pas bon ici
6. Ce n'est pas bon; c'est fantastique
7. C'est fantastique
8. C'est fantastique ici
9. Ce n'est pas bon ici; c'est absolument fantastique
10. C'est très bon ici

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Try and work out what these French sentences mean in English, then check the answers on the next page to see if you were correct.

1. Ce n'est pas très bon
2. C'est très bon
3. Ce n'est pas ici
4. C'est absolument fantastique ici
5. Ce n'est pas très bon ici
6. C'est bon
7. C'est ici
8. Ce n'est pas bon ici
9. C'est bon ici
10. Ce n'est pas bon; c'est absolument fantastique

1. It isn't very good
2. It's very good
3. It isn't here
4. It's absolutely fantastic here
5. It isn't very good here
6. It's good
7. It's here
8. It isn't good here
9. It's good here
10. It isn't good; it's absolutely fantastic

Let's recap the words we've learnt in this lesson.  
How did you say these words in French?

it is

absolutely

fantastic

good

here

very

it isn't

it is            c'est

absolutely    absolument

fantastic     fantastique

good          bon

here          ici

very          très

it isn't       ce n'est pas

## What else?

There is plenty you can do to ensure the language stays firmly in your brain and doesn't disappear. You can play about with building sentences from the words you've learnt so far. Whenever you find yourself with a spare 30 seconds, think of something you can say in French. Saying short sentences to yourself in French throughout the day keeps the language at the forefront of your mind.

Also, from time to time, there will be a word or two (or maybe three) that just will not stay in your memory no matter how hard you try. What you should do to overcome this is write the word down in English in big letters in the middle of a blank piece of paper. Put the piece of paper in your pocket and take it out a few times each day. Whenever you take it out, look at the English word and say the French word to yourself along with a French sentence that contains this word. The first few times, you might struggle to think of what the French word is and you'll have to double check. However, pretty quickly, you'll remember the French without having to check. You'll be amazed at how well this technique works.

Finally, before I end this first lesson, I'll just give you



some information on what it means to learn a language. Memorising lots of words isn't what it means to learn a language. It's a start but it isn't going to get you very far. What you need to be able to do is put those words together to get your thoughts and ideas across to somebody else.

Each time you learn a new word, think to yourself, "Where could I use this?" Make up a sentence and think about where you could say it. "C'est très bon" - you could say this to a waiter in a restaurant when he asks you how your meal is.

By doing this, you're giving the words relevance in your life. You'll remember things much more easily if you can see where it's going to be useful. Also, by building sentences, you're subconsciously creating a list of things to say so that you'll never be lost for words.

Even when you're in France you can do this. Before entering a restaurant, for example, have a quick think about what you could say to the waiter when you go inside. This helps to build your confidence and stops you from having to think on the spot. You'll be more likely to speak if you have already prepared something to say.

## LESSON 2

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in French?

absolutely  
it isn't  
good  
fantastic  
very  
it is  
here

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in French for this lesson:

délicieux

It means "delicious"  
*You pronounce it "day-liss-yer"*

# très délicieux

Did you notice there's another one of those accents on top of the é in délicieux? It's similar to the one we saw in très but it's facing the other way round.

The accent in "très" is called a grave accent and the accent in "délicieux" is called an acute accent. It doesn't really make much difference what they're called but I always think it's nice to know.

The accents don't really do a lot. There's a tiny tiny tiny difference between how you pronounce each one but it's so minor, it's hardly worth bothering about. However, I'll show you, just so you know:

è

The letter è with a grave accent should be pronounced like the e sound in the English word 'fed'

é

The letter é with an acute accent should be pronounced like the vowel sound in the English word 'pay' but without the 'y' sound.

How would you say this in French?

It is delicious.

It is delicious.  
C'est délicieux.

Here's your next word in French:

**extraordinaire**

It means "extraordinary"  
*You pronounce it "extra-or-dee-nair"*

WORD LIST SO FAR

délicieux - *delicious*

extraordinaire - *extraordinary*



How would you say this in French?

It is extraordinary.

It is extraordinary.  
C'est extraordinaire.

How would you say this in French?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.  
C'est absolument  
extraordinaire.

How would you say this in French?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.  
C'est absolument  
extraordinaire ici.

Here's a beautiful little word in French:

**beau**

It means "beautiful"  
*You pronounce it "bow"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

délicieux - *delicious*

extraordinaire - *extraordinary*

beau - *beautiful*



How would you say this in French?

It is beautiful.

It is beautiful.

C'est beau.

How would you say this in French?

It is very beautiful.

It is very beautiful.  
C'est très beau.

How would you say this in French?

It is very beautiful here.

It is very beautiful here.  
C'est très beau ici.

How would you say this in French?

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

C'est absolument beau ici.



Here's a useful phrase in French:

**pour moi**

It means "for me"  
*You pronounce it "pour mwɑ"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

délicieux - *delicious*

extraordinaire - *extraordinary*

beau - *beautiful*

pour moi - *for me*

How would you say this in French?

It is for me.

It is for me.  
C'est pour moi.

How would you say this in French?

It isn't for me.

It isn't for me.  
Ce n'est pas pour moi.

How would you say this in French?

It isn't good for me.

It isn't good for me.  
Ce n'est pas bon pour moi.



How would you say this in French?

It isn't very good for me.

It isn't very good for me.  
Ce n'est pas très bon pour  
moi.

The phrase “pour moi” actually has two meanings in French. We’ve seen it can mean “for me” but, if you put “pour moi” at the start of a sentence in French, it can mean “in my opinion” or “I think”:

## **pour moi**

It means “in my opinion” or “I think”  
*You pronounce it “pour mwɑ”*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

délicieux - *delicious*

extraordinaire - *extraordinary*

beau - *beautiful*

pour moi - *for me*

pour moi - *I think / in my opinion*

How would you say this in French?

I think it is good.

I think it's good.  
Pour moi, c'est bon.

How would you say this in French?

I think it's very good.

I think it's very good.  
Pour moi, c'est très bon.



How would you say this in French?

I think it's delicious.

I think it's delicious.  
Pour moi, c'est délicieux.

How would you say this in French?

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.

Pour moi, c'est absolument  
extraordinaire ici.

How would you say this in French?

I think it's fantastic here.

I think it's fantastic here.  
Pour moi, c'est fantastique  
ici.

Now we've added quite a few new words to our French repertoire, let's practise putting them together into sentences. How do you say these sentences in French?

1. It's very beautiful here
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's very good
4. It's absolutely extraordinary here
5. It isn't for me
6. It isn't very good for me
7. It isn't good; it's absolutely extraordinary
8. It's absolutely delicious
9. I think it's delicious
10. I think it's fantastic

1. C'est très beau ici
2. C'est absolument beau
3. Pour moi, c'est très bon
4. C'est absolument extraordinaire ici
5. Ce n'est pas pour moi
6. Ce n'est pas très bon pour moi
7. Ce n'est pas bon; c'est absolument extraordinaire
8. C'est absolument délicieux
9. Pour moi, c'est délicieux
10. Pour moi, c'est fantastique



Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. What do these French sentences mean in English?

1. C'est extraordinaire
2. C'est absolument beau
3. Pour moi, c'est absolument beau ici
4. Pour moi, c'est bon
5. C'est très bon pour moi
6. Ce n'est pas pour moi
7. C'est délicieux
8. Pour moi, c'est délicieux
9. C'est absolument beau ici
10. Ce n'est pas très beau

1. It's extraordinary
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
4. I think it's good
5. It's very good for me
6. It isn't for me
7. It's delicious
8. I think it's delicious
9. It's absolutely beautiful here
10. It isn't very beautiful

What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.

1. It isn't very good
2. It isn't good here
3. It's absolutely fantastic here
4. It's fantastic
5. It's good here
6. It's here
7. It's fantastic here
8. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
9. It isn't very good here
10. It's very good

1. Ce n'est pas très bon
2. Ce n'est pas bon ici
3. C'est absolument fantastique ici
4. C'est fantastique
5. C'est bon ici
6. C'est ici
7. C'est fantastique ici
8. Ce n'est pas bon ici; c'est absolument fantastique
9. Ce n'est pas très bon ici
10. C'est très bon

Let's now do some French to English recap translations.

1. Ce n'est pas bon ici
2. Ce n'est pas très bon
3. C'est ici
4. C'est fantastique ici
5. Ce n'est pas bon ici; c'est absolument fantastique
6. C'est absolument fantastique ici
7. Ce n'est pas fantastique
8. C'est bon ici
9. C'est bon
10. C'est fantastique

1. It isn't good here
2. It isn't very good
3. It's here
4. It's fantastic here
5. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
6. It's absolutely fantastic here
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's good here
9. It's good
10. It's fantastic

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in French?

1. it is
2. here
3. fantastic
4. delicious
5. it isn't
6. good
7. very
8. extraordinary
9. I think
10. beautiful
11. for me
12. absolutely

1. c'est
2. ici
3. fantastique
4. délicieux
5. ce n'est pas
6. bon
7. très
8. extraordinaire
9. pour moi
10. beau
11. pour moi
12. absolument



## LESSON 3

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in French?

for me  
I think  
delicious  
extraordinary  
beautiful

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in French for this lesson:

**mais**

It means "but"  
*You pronounce it "may"*

# mais

You pronounce the word "mais" like "may" but it ends in the letter 's'.

Well, there's a funny thing about consonants in French, you rarely ever pronounce them when they're on the end of a word. The only consonants you pronounce on the end of words in French are C, R, F and L. You can remember them because they appear in the word CAREFUL

CaReFuL

For example:

**sac** "sak"  
(bag)

**pour** "pour"  
(for)

**boeuf** "beuf"  
(beef)

**normal** "noor-mal"  
(normal)

How would you say this in French?

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

C'est délicieux mais ce n'est  
pas très bon pour moi.

Here's your next word in French:

**oui**

It means "yes"  
*You pronounce it "wee"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mais - *but*

oui - *yes*

How would you say this in French?

Yes, it's for me.



Yes, it's for me.  
Oui, c'est pour moi.

How would you say this in French?

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.

Oui, c'est absolument  
délicieux.

How would you say this in French?

Yes, I think it's good.

Yes, I think it's good.  
Oui, pour moi, c'est bon.

Here's a common yet useful word in French:

**merci**

It means "thank you" or "thanks"  
*You pronounce it "mair-see"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mais - *but*

oui - *yes*

merci - *thank you / thanks*

How would you say this in French?

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.



Yes, thank you, it's delicious.  
Oui, merci, c'est délicieux.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mais - *but*

oui - *yes*

merci - *thank you / thanks*

How would you say this in French?

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.

Oui, merci, c'est fantastique.

How would you say this in French?

It's very good, thanks.

It's very good, thanks.  
C'est très bon, merci.

How would you say this in French?

Yes, it is for me, thank you.

Yes, it is for me, thank you.  
Oui, c'est pour moi, merci.



Here's a new word for you:

**toujours**

It means "always"  
*You pronounce it "too-joor"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mais - *but*

oui - *yes*

merci - *thank you / thanks*

toujours - *always*

How would you say this in French?

It is always fantastic here.

It is always fantastic here.  
C'est toujours fantastique  
ici.

How would you say this in French?

It isn't always very good  
here.

It isn't always very good  
here.

Ce n'est pas toujours très  
bon ici.

How would you say this in French?

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

Pour moi, c'est toujours  
beau ici.



How would you say this in French?

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

C'est toujours absolument  
délicieux.

Here's a perfect little word in French:

parfait

It means "perfect"  
*You pronounce it "par-fay"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mais - *but*

oui - *yes*

merci - *thank you / thanks*

toujours - *always*

parfait - *perfect*

How would you say this in French?

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

Oui, c'est parfait, merci.

How would you say this in French?

I think it's perfect.

I think it's perfect.  
Pour moi, c'est parfait.



How would you say this in French?

It's absolutely perfect.

It's absolutely perfect.  
C'est absolument parfait.

How would you say this in French?

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

Pour moi, c'est absolument  
parfait ici.

How would you say this in French?

It's always perfect here.

It's always perfect here.  
C'est toujours parfait ici.

Here's a tiny word in French with a funny thing on it:

ça

It means "that"  
*You pronounce it "ssa"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mais - *but*

oui - *yes*

merci - *thank you / thanks*

toujours - *always*

parfait - *perfect*

ça- *that*



How would you say this in French?

That for me.

That for me.  
Ça pour moi.

## ça

The little squiggle underneath the letter ç is called a cedilla and all it does is tell you to pronounce the c like the letter s. That's why ça is pronounced like sa.

Actually, whilst we're on the topic of the letter c, there are a few more interesting things to say.

The letter C can be pronounced in two ways in French, like a K or like an S. The way you pronounce it depends on what letter comes after it. Turn the page and I'll explain.

## C + E / I = S

If you see the letter C in front of an E or an I, then you pronounce it like an S

For example:

**c'est** – it is (*pronounced "say"*)

**cinéma** – cinema (*pronounced "sin-ay-ma"*)

## C + A / O / U = K

If you see the letter C in front of an A, O or a U, then you pronounce it like a K

For example:

**café** – coffee (*pronounced "ka-fay"*)

**concombre** – cucumber (*pronounced "kon-kom-br"*)

**curiosité** – curiosity (*pronounced "ku-ree-oss-itay"*)

## Ç

If you see the letter Ç with the cedilla, you always pronounce it like an S

For example:

**ça** – that (*pronounced "ssa"*)

**garçon** – boy (*pronounced "gar-sson"*)

**façade** – front (*pronounced "fa-ssad"*)

If you put the word "ça" in front of the word "c'est"  
you get:

ça c'est

It means "that is"

*You pronounce it "ssa say"*

*Literally, it means "that it is" but that's what you have  
to say in French*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mais - *but*

oui - *yes*

merci - *thank you / thanks*

toujours - *always*

parfait - *perfect*

ça - *that*

ça c'est - *that is*

How would you say this in French?

That is good.

That is good.  
Ça c'est bon.



How would you say this in French?

That is very good.

That is very good.  
Ça c'est très bon.

How would you say this in French?

That is absolutely fantastic.

That is absolutely fantastic.  
Ça c'est absolument  
fantastique.

How would you say this in French?

That is for me.

That is for me.  
Ça c'est pour moi.

How would you say this in French?

I think that is perfect.

I think that is perfect.  
Pour moi, ça c'est parfait.



It's time to practise what we've learnt in this lesson.

1. It's always here
2. It isn't always here
3. It's always absolutely fantastic here
4. It's for me, thank you
5. Yes, it's for me
6. It isn't always good here
7. It's always very good
8. I think that is absolutely perfect
9. That is delicious but it isn't very good for me
10. Yes, it's perfect, thank you

1. C'est toujours ici
2. Ce n'est pas toujours ici
3. C'est toujours absolument fantastique  
ici
4. C'est pour moi, merci
5. Oui, c'est pour moi
6. Ce n'est pas toujours bon ici
7. C'est toujours très bon
8. Pour moi, ça c'est absolument parfait
9. Ça c'est délicieux mais ce n'est pas très  
bon pour moi
10. Oui, c'est parfait, merci

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations.

1. Oui, merci
2. C'est absolument parfait
3. Ce n'est pas fantastique mais c'est très bon
4. Pour moi, c'est parfait
5. C'est toujours absolument fantastique ici
6. Pour moi, c'est absolument extraordinaire
7. C'est toujours très bon
8. C'est toujours très bon ici
9. Oui, ça c'est pour moi, merci
10. Ça c'est absolument délicieux

1. Yes, thank you
2. It's absolutely perfect
3. It isn't fantastic but it's very good
4. I think it's perfect
5. It's always absolutely fantastic here
6. I think it's absolutely extraordinary
7. It's always very good
8. It's always very good here
9. Yes, that's for me, thank you
10. That is absolutely delicious

What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.

1. It isn't fantastic
2. It's very good here
3. It's good here
4. It's delicious
5. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
6. It isn't very good here
7. It is absolutely fantastic
8. I think it's good
9. It is fantastic
10. It's absolutely extraordinary here

1. Ce n'est pas fantastique
2. C'est très bon ici
3. C'est bon ici
4. C'est délicieux
5. Pour moi, c'est absolument beau  
ici
6. Ce n'est pas très bon ici
7. C'est absolument fantastique
8. Pour moi, c'est bon
9. C'est fantastique
10. C'est absolument extraordinaire ici

Let's now do some French to English recap translations.

1. Ce n'est pas bon
2. Ce n'est pas très bon pour moi
3. C'est beau
4. C'est fantastique
5. C'est extraordinaire ici
6. C'est extraordinaire
7. Ce n'est pas fantastique
8. C'est très beau ici
9. Ce n'est pas bon ici
10. Ce n'est pas très extraordinaire

1. It isn't good
2. It isn't very good for me
3. It's beautiful
4. It's fantastic
5. It's extraordinary here
6. It's extraordinary
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's very beautiful here
9. It isn't good here
10. It isn't very extraordinary



Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in French?

1. beautiful
2. thanks
3. here
4. it is
5. yes
6. very
7. for me
8. that
9. always
10. fantastic
11. good
12. absolutely
13. I think
14. perfect
15. extraordinary
16. but
17. it isn't
18. delicious
19. that is...

1. beau
2. merci
3. ici
4. c'est
5. oui
6. très
7. pour moi
8. ça
9. toujours
10. fantastique
11. bon
12. absolument
13. pour moi
14. parfait
15. extraordinaire
16. mais
17. ce n'est pas
18. délicieux
19. ça c'est...

# 3 MINUTE SPANISH

## LESSON 1

Here's your first word in Spanish:

**bueno**

It means "good"  
*You pronounce it "BWE-no"*

Here's your next word:

es

It means "it is"  
*You pronounce it "ess"*

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is good.

It is good.  
Es bueno.

You'll start to notice similarities between Spanish and English words:

fantástico

It means "fantastic"

*You pronounce it "fan-TAS-tee-koh"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bueno - *good*

es - *it is*

fantástico - *fantastic*



How would you say this in Spanish?

It is fantastic.

It is fantastic.  
Es fantástico.

# fantástico

You might be wondering what that little line is on top of the á.

It's called an accent. In Spanish, accents are useful because they tell you where to emphasize the word. The accent on top of the á means you emphasize that part of the word.

fan-TAS-ti-co

Here's another word that looks similar to English:

**absolutamente**

It means "absolutely"

*You pronounce it "ab-so-loo-ta-MEN-tay"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bueno - *good*

es - *it is*

fantástico - *fantastic*

absolutamente - *absolutely*

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is absolutely fantastic.

It is absolutely fantastic.  
Es absolutamente  
fantástico.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bueno - *good*

es - *it is*

fantástico - *fantastic*

absolutamente - *absolutely*



Here's a cute little Spanish word:

aquí

It means "here"

*You pronounce it "a-KEE"*

(It has an accent on top of the í so you emphasise that part of the word: a-KEE)

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is good here.

It is good here.  
Es bueno aquí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is fantastic here.

It is fantastic here.  
Es fantástico aquí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

Es absolutamente  
fantástico aquí.

Here's a word you might recognize if you've learnt any Spanish before:

muy

It means "very"  
*You pronounce it "moy"*



## WORD LIST SO FAR

bueno - *good*

es - *it is*

fantástico - *fantastic*

absolutamente - *absolutely*

aquí - *here*

muy - *very*

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is very good.

It is very good.  
Es muy bueno.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is very good here.

It is very good here.  
Es muy bueno aquí.

The word "es" means "it is", well, here's the opposite:

no es

It means "it isn't"  
*You pronounce it "no ess"*

How would you say this in Spanish?

It isn't good.

It isn't good.  
No es bueno.



How would you say this in Spanish?

It isn't very good.

It isn't very good.  
No es muy bueno.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It isn't fantastic.

It isn't fantastic.  
No es fantástico.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It isn't very good here.

It isn't very good here.  
No es muy bueno aquí.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bueno - *good*

es - *it is*

fantástico - *fantastic*

absolutamente - *absolutely*

aquí - *here*

muy - *very*

no es - *it isn't*

You've learnt quite a few words and phrases in Spanish now, and you've hopefully been saying them out loud so that you can master the pronunciation. Now, to really embed these words and phrases in your brain, let's do some translations.



I've put some sentences in English below. Try and work out how to say them in Spanish, and then check to see if you got it right by checking the answers on the next page.

1. It's good
2. It's absolutely fantastic here
3. It's good here
4. It is very good
5. It isn't good here
6. It isn't good; it's fantastic
7. It's fantastic
8. It's fantastic here
9. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
10. It's very good here

1. Es bueno
2. Es absolutamente fantástico aquí
3. Es bueno aquí
4. Es muy bueno
5. No es bueno aquí
6. No es bueno ; es fantástico
7. Es fantástico
8. Es fantástico aquí
9. No es bueno aquí ; es absolutamente fantástico
10. Es muy bueno aquí

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following Spanish sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

11. No es muy bueno
12. Es muy bueno
13. No es fantástico aquí
14. Es absolutamente fantástico aquí
15. No es muy bueno aquí
16. Es bueno
17. Es fantástico aquí
18. No es bueno aquí
19. Es bueno aquí
20. No es bueno ; es absolutamente fantástico

1. It isn't very good
2. It's very good
3. It isn't fantastic here
4. It's absolutely fantastic here
5. It isn't very good here
6. It's good
7. It's fantastic here
8. It isn't good here
9. It's good here
10. It isn't good; it's absolutely fantastic

Let's recap the words we've learnt in this lesson.  
How did you say these words in Spanish?

it is

absolutely

fantastic

good

here

very

it isn't

it is - **es**

absolutely - **absolutamente**

fantastic - **fantástico**

good - **bueno**

here - **aquí**

very - **muy**

it isn't - **no es**

## What else?

There is plenty you can do to ensure the language stays firmly in your brain and doesn't disappear.

You can play about with building sentences from the words you've learnt so far. Whenever you find yourself with a spare 30 seconds, think of something you can say in Spanish. Saying short sentences to yourself in Spanish throughout the day keeps the language at the forefront of your mind.

Also, from time to time, there will be a word or two (or maybe three) that just will not stay in your memory no matter how hard you try. What you should do to overcome this is write the word down in English in big letters in the middle of a blank piece of paper. Put the piece of paper in your pocket and take it out a few times each day. Whenever you take it out, look at the English word and say the Spanish word to yourself along with a Spanish sentence that contains this word. The first few times, you might struggle to think of what the Spanish word is and you'll have to double check. However, pretty quickly, you'll remember the Spanish without having to check. You'll be amazed at how well this technique works.

Finally, before I end this first lesson, I'll just give you some information on what it means to learn a language.

Memorising lots of words isn't what it means to learn a language. It's a start but it isn't going to get you very far. What you need to be able to do is put those words together to get your thoughts and ideas across to somebody else.

Each time you learn a new word, think to yourself, "Where could I use this?"

Make up a sentence and think about where you could say it. "Es muy bueno" - you could say this to a waiter in a restaurant when he asks you how your meal is.

By doing this, you're giving the words relevance in your life. You'll remember things much more easily if you can see where it's going to be useful. Also, by building sentences, you're subconsciously creating a list of things to say so that you'll never be lost for words.

Even when you're in Spain you can do this. Before entering a restaurant, for example, have a quick think about what you could say to the waiter when you go inside. This helps to build your confidence



and stops you from having to think on the spot. You'll be more likely to speak if you have already prepared something to say.

## LESSON 2

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in Spanish?

absolutely  
it isn't  
good  
fantastic  
very  
it is  
here

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in Spanish for this lesson:

**delicioso**

It means "delicious"

*You pronounce it "deli-see-OH-soh"*

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is delicious.

It is delicious.  
Es delicioso.

Here's your next word in Spanish:

**extraordinario**

It means "extraordinary"

*You pronounce it "extra-or-di-NAH-reeo"*

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is extraordinary.

It is extraordinary.  
Es extraordinario.



How would you say this in Spanish?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.

Es absolutamente  
extraordinario.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.

Es absolutamente  
extraordinario aquí.

Here's a beautiful little word in Spanish:

**precioso**

It means "beautiful"  
*You pronounce it "press-ee-OH-soh"*

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is beautiful.

It is beautiful.  
Es precioso.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

delicioso - *delicious*

extraordinario - *extraordinary*

precioso - *beautiful*



How would you say this in Spanish?

It is very beautiful.

It is very beautiful.  
Es muy precioso.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is very beautiful here.

It is very beautiful here.  
Es muy precioso aquí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

Es absolutamente precioso  
aquí.

Here's a useful phrase in Spanish:

para mí

It means "for me"  
*You pronounce it "pa-ra mee"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

delicioso - *delicious*

extraordinario - *extraordinary*

precioso - *beautiful*

para mí - *for me*



How would you say this in Spanish?

It is for me.

It is for me.  
Es para mí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It isn't for me.

It isn't for me.  
No es para mí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It isn't good for me.

It isn't good for me.  
No es bueno para mí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It isn't very good for me.

It isn't very good for me.  
No es muy bueno para mí.



The phrase “para mí” actually has two meanings in Spanish. We’ve seen it can mean “for me” but, if you put “para mí” at the start of a sentence in Spanish, it can mean “in my opinion” or “I think”:

para mí

It means “in my opinion” or “I think”  
*You pronounce it “pa-ra mee”*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

delicioso - *delicious*

extraordinario - *extraordinary*

precioso - *beautiful*

para mí - *for me*

para mí - *I think / in my opinion*

How would you say this in Spanish?

I think it is good.

I think it's good.  
Para mí, es bueno.

How would you say this in Spanish?

I think it's very good.

I think it's very good.  
Para mí, es muy bueno.

How would you say this in Spanish?

I think it's delicious.

I think it's delicious.  
Para mí, es delicioso.



How would you say this in Spanish?

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.

Para mí, es absolutamente  
extraordinario aquí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

I think it's fantastic here.

I think it's fantastic here.  
Para mí, es fantástico aquí.

Now we've added quite a few new words to our Spanish repertoire, let's practise putting them together into sentences. How do you say these sentences in Spanish?

1. It's very beautiful here
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's very good
4. It's absolutely extraordinary here
5. It isn't for me
6. It isn't very good for me
7. It isn't good; it's absolutely extraordinary
8. It's absolutely delicious
9. I think it's delicious
10. I think it's fantastic

1. Es muy precioso aquí
2. Es absolutamente precioso
3. Para mí, es muy bueno
4. Es absolutamente extraordinario aquí
5. No es para mí
6. No es muy bueno para mí
7. No es bueno; es absolutamente extraordinario
8. Es absolutamente delicioso
9. Para mí, es delicioso
10. Para mí, es fantástico

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. How do you say these Spanish sentences in English?

1. Es extraordinario
2. Es absolutamente precioso
3. Para mí, es absolutamente precioso aquí
4. Para mí, es bueno
5. Es muy bueno para mí
6. No es para mí
7. Es delicioso
8. Para mí, es delicioso
9. Es absolutamente precioso aquí
10. No es muy precioso

1. It's extraordinary
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
4. I think it's good
5. It's very good for me
6. It isn't for me
7. It's delicious
8. I think it's delicious
9. It's absolutely beautiful here
10. It isn't very beautiful



What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.

1. It isn't very good
2. It isn't good here
3. It's absolutely fantastic here
4. It's fantastic
5. It's good here
6. It's very good here
7. It's fantastic here
8. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
9. It isn't very good here
10. It's very good

1. No es muy bueno
2. No es bueno aquí
3. Es absolutamente fantástico aquí
4. Es fantástico
5. Es bueno aquí
6. Es muy bueno aquí
7. Es fantástico aquí
8. No es bueno aquí; es absolutamente fantástico
9. No es muy bueno aquí
10. Es muy bueno

Let's now do some Spanish to English recap translations.

1. No es bueno aquí
2. No es muy bueno aquí
3. Es muy bueno aquí
4. Es fantástico aquí
5. No es bueno aquí; es absolutamente fantástico
6. Es absolutamente fantástico aquí
7. No es fantástico
8. Es bueno aquí
9. Es bueno
10. Es fantástico

1. It isn't good here
2. It isn't very good here
3. It's very good here
4. It's fantastic here
5. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
6. It's absolutely fantastic here
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's good here
9. It's good
10. It's fantastic

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in Spanish?

1. it is
2. here
3. fantastic
4. delicious
5. it isn't
6. good
7. very
8. extraordinary
9. I think
10. beautiful
11. for me
12. absolutely

1. es
2. aquí
3. fantástico
4. delicioso
5. no es
6. bueno
7. muy
8. extraordinario
9. para mí
10. precioso
11. para mí
12. absolutamente

## LESSON 3

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in Spanish?

for me

I think

delicious

extraordinary

beautiful

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in Spanish for this lesson:

pero

It means "but"

*You pronounce it "PEH-roh"*



How would you say this in Spanish?

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

Es delicioso pero no es muy  
bueno para mí.

Here's your next word in Spanish:

**SÍ**

It means "yes"  
*You pronounce it "see"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

pero - *but*

sí - *yes*

How would you say this in Spanish?

Yes, it's for me.

Yes, it's for me.

Sí, es para mí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.

Sí, es absolutamente  
delicioso.



How would you say this in Spanish?

Yes, I think it's good.

Yes, I think it's good.  
Sí, para mí, es bueno.

Here's a common yet useful word in Spanish:

**gracias**

It means "thank you" or "thanks"  
*You pronounce it "GRA-see-ass"*

How would you say this in Spanish?

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.  
Sí, gracias, es delicioso.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

pero - *but*

sí - *yes*

gracias - *thank you / thanks*

How would you say this in Spanish?

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.

Sí, gracias, es fantástico.



How would you say this in Spanish?

It's very good, thanks.

It's very good, thanks.  
Es muy bueno, gracias.

How would you say this in Spanish?

Yes, it is for me, thank you.

Yes, it is for me, thank you.

Sí, es para mí, gracias.

Here's a new word for you:

**siempre**

It means "always"

*You pronounce it "see-EM-pray"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

pero - *but*

sí - *yes*

gracias - *thank you / thanks*

siempre - *always*

How would you say this in Spanish?

It is always fantastic here.

It is always fantastic here.  
Es siempre fantástico aquí.



How would you say this in Spanish?

It isn't always very good  
here.

It isn't always very good  
here.

No es siempre muy bueno  
aquí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

Para mí, es siempre  
precioso aquí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

Es siempre absolutamente  
delicioso.

Here's a perfect little word in Spanish:

perfecto

It means "perfect"  
*You pronounce it "pair-FEK-ttoh"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

pero - *but*

sí - *yes*

gracias - *thank you / thanks*

siempre - *always*

perfecto - *perfect*



How would you say this in Spanish?

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

Sí, es perfecto, gracias.

How would you say this in Spanish?

I think it's perfect.

I think it's perfect.  
Para mí, es perfecto.

How would you say this in Spanish?

It's absolutely perfect.

It's absolutely perfect.  
Es absolutamente perfecto.

How would you say this in Spanish?

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

Para mí, es absolutamente  
perfecto aquí.



How would you say this in Spanish?

It's always perfect here.

It's always perfect here.  
Es siempre perfecto aquí.

Here's a useful word in Spanish:

**eso**

It means "that"  
*You pronounce it "ESS-oh"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

pero - *but*

sí - *yes*

gracias - *thank you / thanks*

siempre - *always*

perfecto - *perfect*

eso - *that*

How would you say this in Spanish?

That for me.

That for me.  
Eso para mí.

If you put the word "eso" in front of the word "es"  
you get:

**eso es**

It means "that is"  
*You pronounce it "ess-oh ess"*

How would you say this in Spanish?

That is good.



That is good.  
Eso es bueno.

How would you say this in Spanish?

That is very good.

That is very good.  
Eso es muy bueno.

How would you say this in Spanish?

That is absolutely fantastic.

That is absolutely fantastic.  
Eso es absolutamente  
fantástico.

How would you say this in Spanish?

That is for me.

That is for me.  
Eso es para mí.

How would you say this in Spanish?

I think that is perfect.



I think that is perfect.  
Para mí, eso es perfecto.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

pero - *but*

sí - *yes*

gracias - *thank you / thanks*

siempre - *always*

perfecto - *perfect*

eso - *that*

eso es - *that is*

It's time to practise what we've learnt in this lesson.

1. It's always perfect here
2. It isn't always perfect here
3. It's always absolutely fantastic here
4. It's for me, thank you
5. Yes, it's for me
6. It isn't always good here
7. It's always very good
8. I think that is absolutely perfect
9. That is delicious but it isn't very good for me
10. Yes, it's perfect, thank you

1. Es siempre perfecto aquí
2. No es siempre perfecto aquí
3. Es siempre absolutamente fantástico aquí
4. Es para mí, gracias
5. Sí, es para mí
6. No es siempre bueno aquí
7. Es siempre muy bueno
8. Para mí, eso es absolutamente perfecto
9. Eso es delicioso pero no es muy bueno para mí
10. Sí, es perfecto, gracias

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations.

1. Sí, gracias
2. Es absolutamente perfecto
3. No es fantástico pero es muy bueno
4. Para mí, es perfecto
5. Es siempre absolutamente fantástico aquí
6. Para mí, es absolutamente extraordinario
7. Es siempre muy bueno
8. Es siempre muy bueno aquí
9. Sí, eso es para mí, gracias
10. Eso es absolutamente delicioso

1. Yes, thank you
2. It's absolutely perfect
3. It isn't fantastic but it's very good
4. I think it's perfect
5. It's always absolutely fantastic here
6. I think it's absolutely extraordinary
7. It's always very good
8. It's always very good here
9. Yes, that's for me, thank you
10. That is absolutely delicious

What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.

1. It isn't fantastic
2. It's very good here
3. It's good here
4. It's delicious
5. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
6. It isn't very good here
7. It is absolutely fantastic
8. I think it's good
9. It is fantastic
10. It's absolutely extraordinary here

1. No es fantástico
2. Es muy bueno aquí
3. Es bueno aquí
4. Es delicioso
5. Para mí, es absolutamente precioso aquí
6. No es muy bueno aquí
7. Es absolutamente fantástico
8. Para mí, es bueno
9. Es fantástico
10. Es absolutamente extraordinario aquí



Let's now do some Spanish to English recap translations. Grab a piece of paper and see if you can work out what these sentences mean.

1. No es bueno
2. No es muy bueno para mí
3. Es precioso
4. Es fantástico
5. Es extraordinario aquí
6. Es extraordinario
7. No es fantástico
8. Es muy precioso aquí
9. No es muy bueno aquí
10. No es muy extraordinario

1. It isn't good
2. It isn't very good for me
3. It's beautiful
4. It's fantastic
5. It's extraordinary here
6. It's extraordinary
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's very beautiful here
9. It isn't very good here
10. It isn't very extraordinary

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in Spanish?

1. beautiful
2. thanks
3. here
4. it is
5. yes
6. very
7. for me
8. that
9. always
10. fantastic
11. good
12. absolutely
13. I think
14. perfect
15. extraordinary
16. but
17. it isn't
18. delicious
19. that is...

1. precioso
2. gracias
3. aquí
4. es
5. sí
6. muy
7. para mí
8. eso
9. siempre
10. fantástico
11. bueno
12. absolutamente
13. para mí
14. perfecto
15. extraordinario
16. pero
17. no es
18. delicioso
19. eso es...

# 3 MINUTE GERMAN

## LESSON 1

Here's your first word in German:

gut

It means "good"  
*You pronounce it "gut"*

Here's your next word:

es ist

It means "it is"  
*You pronounce it "es ist"*

How would you say this in German?

It is good.

It is good.  
Es ist gut.



You'll start to notice similarities between German and English words:

fantastisch

It means "fantastic"  
*You pronounce it "fan-tas-tish"*

How would you say this in German?

It is fantastic.

It is fantastic.  
Es ist fantastisch.

Here's another word that doesn't really look like English:

ganz

It means "absolutely"  
*You pronounce it "gants"*

How would you say this in German?

It is absolutely fantastic.

It is absolutely fantastic.  
Es ist ganz fantastisch.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

gut - *good*

es ist - *it is*

fantastisch - *fantastic*

ganz - *absolutely*

Here's a cute little German word:

hier

It means "here"  
*You pronounce it "hear"*



How would you say this in German?

It is here.

It is here.  
Es ist hier.

How would you say this in German?

It is good here.

It is good here.  
Es ist gut hier.

How would you say this in German?

It is fantastic here.

It is fantastic here.  
Es ist fantastisch hier.

How would you say this in German?

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

Es ist ganz fantastisch hier.



Here's a word you might recognize if you've learnt any German before:

sehr

It means "very"  
*You pronounce it "zair"*

How would you say this in German?

It is very good.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

gut - *good*

es ist - *it is*

fantastisch - *fantastic*

ganz - *absolutely*

hier - *here*

sehr - *very*

It is very good.  
Es ist sehr gut.

How would you say this in German?

It is very good here.

It is very good here.  
Es ist sehr gut hier.

The word "es ist" means "it is", well, here's the opposite:

**es ist nicht**

It means "it isn't"  
*You pronounce it "es ist nikt"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

gut - *good*

es ist - *it is*

fantastisch - *fantastic*

ganz - *absolutely*

hier - *here*

sehr - *very*

es ist nicht - *it isn't*



How would you say this in German?

It isn't here.

It isn't here.  
Es ist nicht hier.

How would you say this in German?

It isn't good.

It isn't good.  
Es ist nicht gut.

How would you say this in German?

It isn't very good.

It isn't very good.  
Es ist nicht sehr gut.

How would you say this in German?

It isn't fantastic.

It isn't fantastic.  
Es ist nicht fantastisch.



How would you say this in German?

It isn't very good here.

It isn't very good here.  
Es ist nicht sehr gut hier.

You've learnt quite a few words and phrases in German now, and you've hopefully been saying them out loud so that you can master the pronunciation. Now, to really embed these words and phrases in your brain, let's do some translations.

If you grab a piece of paper and see if you can write down the following sentences in German. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

12. It's good
13. It's absolutely fantastic here
14. It's good here
15. It is very good
16. It isn't good here
17. It isn't good; it's fantastic
18. It's fantastic
19. It's fantastic here
20. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
21. It's very good here

1. Es ist gut
2. Es ist ganz fantastisch hier
3. Es ist gut hier
4. Es ist sehr gut
5. Es ist nicht gut hier
6. Es ist nicht gut ; es ist fantastisch
7. Es ist fantastisch
8. Es ist fantastisch hier
9. Es ist nicht gut hier ; es ist ganz fantastisch
10. Es ist sehr gut hier

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following German sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

21. Es ist nicht sehr gut
22. Es ist sehr gut
23. Es ist nicht hier
24. Es ist ganz fantastisch hier
25. Es ist nicht sehr gut hier
26. Es ist gut
27. Es ist hier
28. Es ist nicht gut hier
29. Es ist gut hier
30. Es ist nicht gut ; es ist ganz fantastisch

1. It isn't very good
2. It's very good
3. It isn't here
4. It's absolutely fantastic here
5. It isn't very good here
6. It's good
7. It's here
8. It isn't good here
9. It's good here
10. It isn't good; it's absolutely fantastic



Let's recap the words we've learnt in this lesson.  
How did you say these words in German?

it is

absolutely

fantastic

good

here

very

it isn't

it is – es ist

absolutely - ganz

fantastic - fantastisch

good - gut

here - hier

very - sehr

it isn't – es ist nicht

## What else?

There is plenty you can do to ensure the language stays firmly in your brain and doesn't disappear.

You can play about with building sentences from the words you've learnt so far. Whenever you find yourself with a spare 30 seconds, think of something you can say in German. Saying short sentences to yourself in German throughout the day keeps the language at the forefront of your mind.

Also, from time to time, there will be a word or two (or maybe three) that just will not stay in your memory no matter how hard you try. What you should do to overcome this is write the word down in English in big letters in the middle of a blank piece of paper. Put the piece of paper in your pocket and take it out a few times each day. Whenever you take it out, look at the English word and say the German word to yourself along with a German sentence that contains this word. The first few times, you might struggle to think of what the German word is and you'll have to double check. However, pretty quickly, you'll remember the German without having to check. You'll be amazed at how well this technique works.

Finally, before I end this first lesson, I'll just give you some information on what it means to learn a language.

Memorising lots of words isn't what it means to learn a language. It's a start but it isn't going to get you very far. What you need to be able to do is put those words together to get your thoughts and ideas across to somebody else.

Each time you learn a new word, think to yourself, "Where could I use this?"

Make up a sentence and think about where you could say it. "Es ist sehr gut" - you could say this to a waiter in a restaurant when he asks you how your meal is.

By doing this, you're giving the words relevance in your life. You'll remember things much more easily if you can see where it's going to be useful. Also, by building sentences, you're subconsciously creating a list of things to say so that you'll never be lost for words.

Even when you're in Germany you can do this. Before entering a restaurant, for example, have a quick think about what you could say to the waiter when you go inside. This helps to build your

confidence and stops you from having to think on the spot. You'll be more likely to speak if you have already prepared something to say.

## LESSON 2

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in German?

absolutely  
it isn't  
good  
fantastic  
very  
it is  
here

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in German for this lesson:

lecker

It means "delicious"  
*You pronounce it "lek-air"*

How would you say this in German?

It is delicious.



It is delicious.  
Es ist lecker.

Here's your next word in German:

aussergewöhnlich

It means "extraordinary"  
*You pronounce it "ow-sir-ge-vurn-lik"*

How would you say this in German?

It is extraordinary.

It is extraordinary.  
Es ist aussergewöhnlich.

ö

What are those funny dots on top of the ö in *aussergewöhnlich*? It's called an umlaut and it changes the way you pronounce the letter in German.

Normally, the letter o in German is pronounced similar to the letter o in the English word *octopus*. However, when you put an umlaut over the ö, it is pronounced more like the u sound in the English word *burn*.

How would you say this in German?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.

Es ist ganz  
aussergewöhnlich.

How would you say this in German?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.



It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.

Es ist ganz  
aussergewöhnlich hier.

Here's a beautiful little word in German:

schön

It means "beautiful"  
*You pronounce it "shurn"*

How would you say this in German?

It is beautiful.

It is beautiful.  
Es ist schön.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

lecker - *delicious*

aussergewöhnlich - *extraordinary*

schön - *beautiful*

How would you say this in German?

It is very beautiful.

It is very beautiful.  
Es ist sehr schön.

How would you say this in German?

It is very beautiful here.



It is very beautiful here.  
Es ist sehr schön hier.

How would you say this in German?

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

Es ist ganz schön hier.

Here's a useful phrase in German:

**für mich**

It means "for me"  
*You pronounce it "fur mik"*

How would you say this in German?

It is for me.

It is for me.  
Es ist für mich.

How would you say this in German?

It isn't for me.

It isn't for me.  
Es ist nicht für mich.



How would you say this in German?

It isn't good for me.

It isn't good for me.  
Es ist nicht gut für mich.

How would you say this in German?

It isn't very good for me.

It isn't very good for me.  
Es ist nicht sehr gut für  
mich.

The phrase "für mich" actually has two meanings in German. We've seen it can mean "for me" but, if you put "für mich" at the start of a sentence in German, it can mean "in my opinion" or "I think":

**für mich**

It means "in my opinion" or "I think"  
*You pronounce it "fur mik"*

# für mich

When you put "für mich" at the start of a sentence, something amazing happens. The next two words switch round. So, if you want to say "it is good", you just say "**es ist gut**" but if you want to say "I think it is good" you would say "**für mich ist es gut**".

How would you say this in German?

I think it is good.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

lecker - *delicious*

aussergewöhnlich - *extraordinary*

schön - *beautiful*

für mich - *for me*

für mich - *I think / in my opinion*



I think it's good.  
Für mich ist es gut.

How would you say this in German?

I think it's very good.

I think it's very good.  
Für mich ist es sehr gut.

How would you say this in German?

I think it's delicious.

I think it's delicious.  
Für mich ist es lecker.

How would you say this in German?

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.

Für mich ist es ganz  
aussergewöhnlich hier.

How would you say this in German?

I think it's fantastic here.



I think it's fantastic here.  
Für mich ist es fantastisch  
hier.

Now we've added quite a few new words to our German repertoire, let's practise putting them together into sentences.

If you grab a piece of paper, see if you can write down the following sentences in German. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

1. It's very beautiful here
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's very good
4. It's absolutely extraordinary here
5. It isn't for me
6. It isn't very good for me
7. It isn't good; it's absolutely extraordinary
8. It's absolutely delicious
9. I think it's delicious
10. I think it's fantastic

1. Es ist sehr schön hier
2. Es ist ganz schön
3. Für mich ist es sehr gut
4. Es ist ganz aussergewöhnlich hier
5. Es ist nicht für mich
6. Es ist nicht sehr gut für mich
7. Es ist nicht gut; es ist ganz aussergewöhnlich
8. Es ist ganz lecker
9. Für mich ist es lecker
10. Für mich ist es fantastisch

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following German sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

1. Es ist aussergewöhnlich
2. Es ist ganz schön
3. Für mich ist es ganz schön hier
4. Für mich ist es gut
5. Es ist sehr gut für mich
6. Es ist nicht für mich
7. Es ist lecker
8. Für mich ist es lecker
9. Es ist ganz schön hier
10. Es ist nicht sehr schön

1. It's extraordinary
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
4. I think it's good
5. It's very good for me
6. It isn't for me
7. It's delicious
8. I think it's delicious
9. It's absolutely beautiful here
10. It isn't very beautiful

What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.



1. It isn't very good
2. It isn't good here
3. It's absolutely fantastic here
4. It's fantastic
5. It's good here
6. It's here
7. It's fantastic here
8. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
9. It isn't very good here
10. It's very good

1. Es ist nicht sehr gut
2. Es ist nicht gut hier
3. Es ist ganz fantastisch hier
4. Es ist fantastisch
5. Es ist gut hier
6. Es ist hier
7. Es ist fantastisch hier
8. Es ist nicht gut hier; es ist ganz fantastisch
9. Es ist nicht sehr gut hier
10. Es ist sehr gut

Let's now do some German to English recap translations. Grab a piece of paper and see if you can work out what these sentences mean.

1. Es ist nicht gut hier
2. Es ist nicht sehr gut
3. Es ist hier
4. Es ist fantastisch hier
5. Es ist nicht gut hier; es ist ganz fantastisch
6. Es ist ganz fantastisch hier
7. Es ist nicht fantastisch
8. Es ist gut hier
9. Es ist gut
10. Es ist fantastisch

1. It isn't good here
2. It isn't very good
3. It's here
4. It's fantastic here
5. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
6. It's absolutely fantastic here
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's good here
9. It's good
10. It's fantastic

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in German?

1. it is
2. here
3. fantastic
4. delicious
5. it isn't
6. good
7. very
8. extraordinary
9. I think
10. beautiful
11. for me
12. absolutely

1. es ist
2. hier
3. fantastisch
4. lecker
5. es ist nicht
6. gut
7. sehr
8. aussergewöhnlich
9. für mich (*switch next two words round*)
10. schön
11. für mich
12. ganz

## LESSON 3

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in German?

for me  
I think  
delicious  
extraordinary  
beautiful

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.



Here's your first word in German for this lesson:

**aber**

It means "but"

*You pronounce it "ar-bear"*

How would you say this in German?

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

Es ist lecker aber es ist  
nicht sehr gut für mich.

Here's your next word in German:

ja

It means "yes"  
*You pronounce it "yar"*

How would you say this in German?

Yes, it's for me.

Yes, it's for me.  
Ja, es ist für mich.

How would you say this in German?

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.  
Ja, es ist ganz lecker.



How would you say this in German?

Yes, I think it's good.

Yes, I think it's good.  
Ja, für mich ist es gut.

Here's a common yet useful word in German:

danke

It means "thank you" or "thanks"  
*You pronounce it "dank-er"*

How would you say this in German?

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.  
Ja, danke, es ist lecker.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

aber - *but*

ja - *yes*

danke - *thank you*

How would you say this in German?

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.  
Ja, danke, es ist fantastisch.



How would you say this in German?

It's very good, thanks.

It's very good, thanks.  
Es ist sehr gut, danke.

How would you say this in German?

Yes, it is for me, thank you.

Yes, it is for me, thank you.

Ja, es ist für mich, danke.

Here's a new word for you:

**immer**

It means "always"  
*You pronounce it "im-er"*

How would you say this in German?

It is always fantastic here.

It is always fantastic here.  
Es ist immer fantastisch  
hier.

How would you say this in German?

It isn't always very good  
here.



It isn't always very good  
here.

Es ist nicht immer sehr gut  
hier.

How would you say this in German?

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

Für mich ist es immer  
schön hier.

How would you say this in German?

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

Es ist immer ganz lecker.

Here's a perfect little word in German:

perfekt

It means "perfect"  
*You pronounce it "perfekt"*

How would you say this in German?

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

aber - *but*

ja - *yes*

danke - *thank you*

immer - *always*

perfekt - *perfect*



Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

Ja, es ist perfekt, danke.

How would you say this in German?

I think it's perfect.

I think it's perfect.  
Für mich ist es perfekt.

How would you say this in German?

It's absolutely perfect.

It's absolutely perfect.  
Es ist ganz perfekt.

How would you say this in German?

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

Für mich ist es ganz perfekt  
hier.

How would you say this in German?

It's always perfect here.



It's always perfect here.  
Es ist immer perfekt hier.

Here's a useful word in German:

das

It means "that"  
*You pronounce it "dass"*

How would you say this in German?

That for me.

That for me.  
Das für mich.

If you put the word "das" in front of the word "ist"  
you get:

das ist

It means "that is"  
*You pronounce it "dass isst"*

How would you say this in German?

That is good.

That is good.  
Das ist gut.

How would you say this in German?

That is very good.



That is very good.  
Das ist sehr gut.

How would you say this in German?

That is absolutely fantastic.

That is absolutely fantastic.  
Das ist ganz fantastisch.

How would you say this in German?

That is for me.

That is for me.  
Das ist für mich.

How would you say this in German?

I think that is perfect.

# für mich

Remember, when you put “für mich” at the start of a sentence, you have to switch the next two words round.

For example, look at the difference between the two sentences below:

**es ist gut**  
*it is good*

**für mich ist es gut**  
*I think it's good*

So, be careful when you say something like “I think that is perfect”; the “das ist” part has to switch round to become “ist das”.

**das ist gut**  
*that is good*

**für mich ist das gut**  
*I think that is good*

I think that is perfect.  
Für mich ist das perfekt.



## WORD LIST SO FAR

aber - *but*

ja - *yes*

danke - *thank you*

immer - *always*

perfekt - *perfect*

das - *that*

das ist - *that is*

It's time to practise what we've learnt in this lesson.

Grab a piece of paper and see if you can write down the following sentences in German. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

1. It's always perfect here
2. It isn't always perfect here
3. It's always absolutely fantastic here
4. It's for me, thank you
5. Yes, it's for me
6. It isn't always good here
7. It's always very good
8. I think that is absolutely perfect
9. That is delicious but it isn't very good for me
10. Yes, it's perfect, thank you

1. Es ist immer perfekt hier
2. Es ist nicht immer perfekt hier
3. Es ist immer ganz fantastisch hier
4. Es ist für mich, danke
5. Ja, es ist für mich
6. Es ist nicht immer gut hier
7. Es ist immer sehr gut
8. Für mich ist das ganz perfekt
9. Das ist lecker aber es ist nicht sehr gut für mich
10. Ja, es ist perfekt, danke

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following German sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

1. Ja, danke
2. Es ist ganz perfekt
3. Es ist nicht fantastisch aber es ist sehr gut
4. Für mich ist es perfekt
5. Es ist immer ganz fantastisch hier
6. Für mich ist es ganz aussergewöhnlich
7. Es ist immer sehr gut
8. Es ist immer sehr gut hier
9. Ja, das ist für mich, danke
10. Das ist ganz lecker

1. Yes, thank you
2. It's absolutely perfect
3. It isn't fantastic but it's very good
4. I think it's perfect
5. It's always absolutely fantastic here
6. I think it's absolutely extraordinary
7. It's always very good
8. It's always very good here
9. Yes, that's for me, thank you
10. That is absolutely delicious

What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.



1. It isn't fantastic
2. It's very good here
3. It's good here
4. It's delicious
5. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
6. It isn't very good here
7. It is absolutely fantastic
8. I think it's good
9. It is fantastic
10. It's absolutely extraordinary here

1. Es ist nicht fantastisch
2. Es ist sehr gut hier
3. Es ist gut hier
4. Es ist lecker
5. Für mich ist es ganz schön hier
6. Es ist nicht sehr gut hier
7. Es ist ganz fantastisch
8. Für mich ist es gut
9. Es ist fantastisch
10. Es ist ganz aussergewöhnlich hier

Let's now do some German to English recap translations. Grab a piece of paper and see if you can work out what these sentences mean.

1. Es ist nicht gut
2. Es ist nicht sehr gut für mich
3. Es ist schön
4. Es ist fantastisch
5. Es ist aussergewöhnlich hier
6. Es ist aussergewöhnlich
7. Es ist nicht fantastisch
8. Es ist sehr schön hier
9. Es ist nicht sehr gut hier
10. Es ist nicht sehr aussergewöhnlich

1. It isn't good
2. It isn't very good for me
3. It's beautiful
4. It's fantastic
5. It's extraordinary here
6. It's extraordinary
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's very beautiful here
9. It isn't good here
10. It isn't very extraordinary

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in German?

1. beautiful
2. thanks
3. here
4. it is
5. yes
6. very
7. for me
8. that
9. always
10. fantastic
11. good
12. absolutely
13. I think
14. perfect
15. extraordinary
16. but
17. it isn't
18. delicious
19. that is...

1. schön
2. danke
3. hier
4. es ist
5. ja
6. sehr
7. für mich
8. das
9. immer
10. fantastisch
11. gut
12. ganz
13. für mich
14. perfekt
15. aussergewöhnlich
16. aber
17. es ist nicht
18. lecker
19. das ist...

# 3 MINUTE ITALIAN

## LESSON 1

Here's your first word in Italian:

**buono**

It means "good"  
*You pronounce it "bwo-no"*



Here's your next word:

è

It means "it is"  
*You pronounce it "ay"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is good.

It is good.  
È buono.

è

You might be wondering what that little line is on top of the è.

It's called an accent. Don't worry about it for the time being; we'll look at it in detail in a later lesson. Just remember to write it on in the word "è".

You'll start to notice similarities between Italian and English words:

fantastico

It means "fantastic"  
*You pronounce it "fan-tas-tee-koh"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is fantastic.

It is fantastic.  
È fantastico.

Here's another word that looks similar to English:

**assolutamente**

It means "absolutely"  
*You pronounce it "a-so-loo-ta-men-tay"*



How would you say this in Italian?

It is absolutely fantastic.

It is absolutely fantastic.  
È assolutamente fantastico.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

buono - *good*

è - *it is*

fantastico - *fantastic*

assolutamente - *absolutely*

Here's a cute little Italian word:

qui

It means "here"  
*You pronounce it "kwee"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is here.

It is here.  
È qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

It is good here.

It is good here.  
È buono qui.



How would you say this in Italian?

It is fantastic here.

It is fantastic here.  
È fantastico qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

È assolutamente fantastico  
qui.

Here's a word you might recognize if you've learnt any Italian before:

**molto**

It means "very"  
*You pronounce it "moll-tow"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is very good.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

buono - *good*

è - *it is*

fantastico - *fantastic*

assolutamente - *absolutely*

qui - *here*

molto - *very*

It is very good.  
È molto buono.



How would you say this in Italian?

It is very good here.

It is very good here.  
È molto buono qui.

The word "è" means "it is", well, here's the opposite:

non è

It means "it isn't"  
*You pronounce it "non ay"*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

buono - *good*

è - *it is*

fantastico - *fantastic*

assolutamente - *absolutely*

qui - *here*

molto - *very*

non è - *it isn't*

How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't here.

It isn't here.  
Non è qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't good.

It isn't good.  
Non è buono.



How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't very good.

It isn't very good.  
Non è molto buono.

How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't fantastic.

It isn't fantastic.  
Non è fantastico.

How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't very good here.

It isn't very good here.  
Non è molto buono qui.

You've learnt quite a few words and phrases in Italian now, and you've hopefully been saying them out loud so that you can master the pronunciation. Now, to really embed these words and phrases in your brain, let's do some translations.

If you grab a piece of paper and see if you can write down the following sentences in Italian. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

1. It's good
2. It's absolutely fantastic here
3. It's good here
4. It is very good
5. It isn't good here
6. It isn't good; it's fantastic
7. It's fantastic
8. It's fantastic here
9. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
10. It's very good here



1. È buono
2. È assolutamente fantastico qui
3. È buono qui
4. È molto buono
5. Non è buono qui
6. Non è buono ; è fantastico
7. È fantastico
8. È fantastico qui
9. Non è buono qui ; è assolutamente fantastico
10. È molto buono qui

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following Italian sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

1. Non è molto buono
2. È molto buono
3. Non è qui
4. È assolutamente fantastico qui
5. Non è molto buono qui
6. È buono
7. È qui
8. Non è buono qui
9. È buono qui
10. Non è buono ; è assolutamente fantastico

1. It isn't very good
2. It's very good
3. It isn't here
4. It's absolutely fantastic here
5. It isn't very good here
6. It's good
7. It's here
8. It isn't good here
9. It's good here
10. It isn't good; it's absolutely fantastic

Let's recap the words we've learnt in this lesson.  
How did you say these words in Italian?

it is

absolutely

fantastic

good

here

very

it isn't

it is - è

absolutely - **assolutamente**

fantastic - **fantastico**

good - **buono**

here - **qui**

very - **molto**

it isn't - **non è**

## What else?

There is plenty you can do to ensure the language stays firmly in your brain and doesn't disappear.

You can play about with building sentences from the words you've learnt so far. Whenever you find yourself with a spare 30 seconds, think of something you can say in Italian. Saying short sentences to yourself in Italian throughout the day keeps the language at the forefront of your mind.

Also, from time to time, there will be a word or two (or maybe three) that just will not stay in your memory no matter how hard you try. What you should do to overcome this is write the word down in English in big letters in the middle of a blank piece of paper. Put the piece of paper in your pocket and take it out a few times each day. Whenever you take it out, look at the English word and say the Italian word to yourself along with a Italian sentence that contains this word. The first few times, you might struggle to think of what the Italian word is and you'll have to double check. However, pretty quickly, you'll remember the Italian without having to check. You'll be amazed at how well this technique works.

Finally, before I end this first lesson, I'll just give you

some information on what it means to learn a language.

Memorising lots of words isn't what it means to learn a language. It's a start but it isn't going to get you very far. What you need to be able to do is put those words together to get your thoughts and ideas across to somebody else.

Each time you learn a new word, think to yourself, "Where could I use this?"

Make up a sentence and think about where you could say it. "È molto buono" - you could say this to a waiter in a restaurant when he asks you how your meal is.

By doing this, you're giving the words relevance in your life. You'll remember things much more easily if you can see where it's going to be useful. Also, by building sentences, you're subconsciously creating a list of things to say so that you'll never be lost for words.

Even when you're in Italy you can do this. Before entering a restaurant, for example, have a quick think about what you could say to the waiter when you go inside. This helps to build your confidence and stops you from having to think on the spot.



You'll be more likely to speak if you have already prepared something to say.

## LESSON 2

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in Italian?

absolutely  
it isn't  
good  
fantastic  
very  
it is  
here

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in Italian for this lesson:

**squisito**

It means "delicious"  
*You pronounce it "skwizeeto"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is delicious.

It is delicious.  
È squisito.

Here's your next word in Italian:

**straordinario**

It means "extraordinary"  
*You pronounce it "stra-or-di-na-reeo"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is extraordinary.

It is extraordinary.  
È straordinario.



How would you say this in Italian?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.  
È assolutamente  
straordinario.

How would you say this in Italian?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.  
È assolutamente  
straordinario qui.

Here's a beautiful little word in Italian:

**bello**

It means "beautiful"  
*You pronounce it "bell-oh"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is beautiful.

It is beautiful.  
È bello.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

squisito - *delicious*

straordinario - *extraordinary*

bello - *beautiful*



How would you say this in Italian?

It is very beautiful.

It is very beautiful.  
È molto bello.

How would you say this in Italian?

It is very beautiful here.

It is very beautiful here.  
È molto bello qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

È assolutamente bello qui.

Here's a useful phrase in Italian:

**per me**

It means "for me"  
*You pronounce it "pair may"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is for me.



It is for me.  
È per me.

How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't for me.

It isn't for me.  
Non è per me.

How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't good for me.

It isn't good for me.  
Non è buono per me.

How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't very good for me.

It isn't very good for me.  
Non è molto buono per me.

The phrase “per me” actually has two meanings in Italian. We’ve seen it can mean “for me” but, if you put “per me” at the start of a sentence in Italian, it can mean “in my opinion” or “I think”:

**per me**

It means “in my opinion” or “I think”  
*You pronounce it “pair may”*



How would you say this in Italian?

I think it is good.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

squisito - *delicious*

straordinario - *extraordinary*

bello - *beautiful*

per me - *for me*

per me - *I think / in my opinion*

I think it's good.  
Per me, è buono.

How would you say this in Italian?

I think it's very good.

I think it's very good.  
Per me, è molto buono.

How would you say this in Italian?

I think it's delicious.

I think it's delicious.  
Per me, è squisito.

How would you say this in Italian?

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.



I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.  
Per me, è assolutamente  
straordinario qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

I think it's fantastic here.

I think it's fantastic here.  
Per me, è fantastico qui.

Now we've added quite a few new words to our Italian repertoire, let's practise putting them together into sentences.

If you grab a piece of paper, see if you can write down the following sentences in Italian. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

1. It's very beautiful here
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's very good
4. It's absolutely extraordinary here
5. It isn't for me
6. It isn't very good for me
7. It isn't good; it's absolutely extraordinary
8. It's absolutely delicious
9. I think it's delicious
10. I think it's fantastic

1. È molto bello qui
2. È assolutamente bello
3. Per me, è molto buono
4. È assolutamente straordinario qui
5. Non è per me
6. Non è molto buono per me
7. Non è buono ; è assolutamente straordinario
8. È assolutamente squisito
9. Per me, è squisito
10. Per me, è fantastico

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following Italian sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

1. È straordinario
2. È assolutamente bello
3. Per me, è assolutamente bello qui
4. Per me, è buono
5. È molto buono per me
6. Non è per me
7. È squisito
8. Per me, è squisito
9. È assolutamente bello qui
10. Non è molto bello



1. It's extraordinary
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
4. I think it's good
5. It's very good for me
6. It isn't for me
7. It's delicious
8. I think it's delicious
9. It's absolutely beautiful here
10. It isn't very beautiful

What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.

1. It isn't very good
2. It isn't good here
3. It's absolutely fantastic here
4. It's fantastic
5. It's good here
6. It's here
7. It's fantastic here
8. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
9. It isn't very good here
10. It's very good

1. Non è molto buono
2. Non è buono qui
3. È assolutamente fantastico qui
4. È fantastico
5. È buono qui
6. È qui
7. È fantastico qui
8. Non è buono qui ; è assolutamente fantastico
9. Non è molto buono qui
10. È molto buono

Let's now do some Italian to English recap translations. Grab a piece of paper and see if you can work out what these sentences mean.

1. Non è buono qui
2. Non è molto buono
3. È qui
4. È fantastico qui
5. Non è buono qui; è assolutamente fantastico
6. È assolutamente fantastico qui
7. Non è fantastico
8. È buono qui
9. È buono
10. È fantastico

1. It isn't good here
2. It isn't very good
3. It's here
4. It's fantastic here
5. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
6. It's absolutely fantastic here
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's good here
9. It's good
10. It's fantastic

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in Italian?

1. it is
2. here
3. fantastic
4. delicious
5. it isn't
6. good
7. very
8. extraordinary
9. I think
10. beautiful
11. for me
12. absolutely



1. è
2. qui
3. fantastico
4. squisito
5. non è
6. buono
7. molto
8. straordinario
9. per me
10. bello
11. per me
12. assolutamente

## LESSON 3

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in Italian?

for me  
I think  
delicious  
extraordinary  
beautiful

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in Italian for this lesson:

**ma**

It means "but"  
*You pronounce it "mah"*

How would you say this in Italian?

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

È squisito ma non è molto  
buono per me.

Here's your next word in Italian:

**Sì**

It means "yes"  
*You pronounce it "see"*

How would you say this in Italian?

Yes, it's for me.

Yes, it's for me.

Sì, è per me.



How would you say this in Italian?

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.

Sì, è assolutamente  
squisito.

How would you say this in Italian?

Yes, I think it's good.

Yes, I think it's good.

Sì, per me, è buono.

Here's a common yet useful word in Italian:

**grazie**

It means "thank you" or "thanks"  
*You pronounce it "grat-see-ay"*

## Z

The letter Z in Italian is pronounced differently to how we pronounce it in English. You say it as if it were a "TS" instead.

Pizza is pronounced "pee-tsah"

Grazie is pronounced "grat-see-ay"

So, whenever you see the letter Z, imagine it's a TS instead.

How would you say this in Italian?

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.

Sì, grazie, è squisito.



## WORD LIST SO FAR

ma - *but*

sì- *yes*

grazie – *thank you / thanks*

How would you say this in Italian?

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.  
Sì, grazie, è fantastico.

How would you say this in Italian?

It's very good, thanks.

It's very good, thanks.  
È molto buono, grazie.

How would you say this in Italian?

Yes, it is for me, thank you.

Yes, it is for me, thank you.

Sì, è per me, grazie.

Here's a new word for you:

**sempre**

It means "always"

*You pronounce it "sem-pray"*



How would you say this in Italian?

It is always fantastic here.

It is always fantastic here.  
È sempre fantastico qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

It isn't always very good  
here.

It isn't always very good  
here.

Non è sempre molto buono  
qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

Per me, è sempre bello qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

È sempre assolutamente  
squisito.



Here's a perfect little word in Italian:

perfetto

It means "perfect"  
*You pronounce it "pair-feh-ttoh"*

How would you say this in Italian?

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

ma - *but*

sì- *yes*

grazie - *thank you / thanks*

sempre - *always*

perfetto - *perfect*

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

Sì, è perfetto, grazie.

How would you say this in Italian?

I think it's perfect.

I think it's perfect.  
Per me, è perfetto.

How would you say this in Italian?

It's absolutely perfect.

It's absolutely perfect.  
È assolutamente perfetto.



How would you say this in Italian?

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

Per me, è assolutamente  
perfetto qui.

How would you say this in Italian?

It's always perfect here.

It's always perfect here.  
È sempre perfetto qui.

Here's a useful word in Italian:

quello

It means "that"  
*You pronounce it "kwelloh"*

How would you say this in Italian?

That for me.

That for me.  
Quello per me.

If you put the word "quello" in front of the word "è"  
you get:

quello è

It means "that is"  
*You pronounce it "kwelloh ay"*



How would you say this in Italian?

That is good.

That is good.  
Quello è buono.

How would you say this in Italian?

That is very good.

That is very good.  
Quello è molto buono.

How would you say this in Italian?

That is absolutely fantastic.

That is absolutely fantastic.  
Quello è assolutamente  
fantastico.

How would you say this in Italian?

That is for me.

That is for me.  
Quello è per me.



How would you say this in Italian?

I think that is perfect.

I think that is perfect.  
Per me, quello è perfetto.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

ma - *but*

sì- *yes*

grazie - *thank you / thanks*

sempre - *always*

perfetto - *perfect*

quello - *that*

quello è - *that is*

It's time to practise what we've learnt in this lesson.

Grab a piece of paper and see if you can write down the following sentences in Italian. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

1. It's always here
2. It isn't always here
3. It's always absolutely fantastic here
4. It's for me, thank you
5. Yes, it's for me
6. It isn't always good here
7. It's always very good
8. I think that is absolutely perfect
9. That is delicious but it isn't very good for me
10. Yes, it's perfect, thank you

1. È sempre qui
2. Non è sempre qui
3. È sempre assolutamente fantastico qui
4. È per me, grazie
5. Sì, è per me
6. Non è sempre buono qui
7. È sempre molto buono
8. Per me, quello è assolutamente perfetto
9. Quello è squisito ma non è molto buono per me
10. Sì, è perfetto, grazie

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following Italian sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

1. Sì, grazie
2. È assolutamente perfetto
3. Non è fantastico ma è molto buono
4. Per me, è perfetto
5. È sempre assolutamente fantastico qui
6. Per me, è assolutamente straordinario
7. È sempre molto buono
8. È sempre molto buono qui
9. Sì, quello è per me, grazie
10. Quello è assolutamente squisito



1. Yes, thank you
2. It's absolutely perfect
3. It isn't fantastic but it's very good
4. I think it's perfect
5. It's always absolutely fantastic here
6. I think it's absolutely extraordinary
7. It's always very good
8. It's always very good here
9. Yes, that's for me, thank you
10. That is absolutely delicious

What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.

1. It isn't fantastic
2. It's very good here
3. It's good here
4. It's delicious
5. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
6. It isn't very good here
7. It is absolutely fantastic
8. I think it's good
9. It is fantastic
10. It's absolutely extraordinary here

1. Non è fantastico
2. È molto buono qui
3. È buono qui
4. È squisito
5. Per me, è assolutamente bello qui
6. Non è molto buono qui
7. È assolutamente fantastico
8. Per me, è buono
9. È fantastico
10. È assolutamente straordinario qui

Let's now do some Italian to English recap translations. Grab a piece of paper and see if you can work out what these sentences mean.

1. Non è buono
2. Non e molto buono per me
3. È bello
4. È fantastico
5. È straordinario qui
6. È straordinario
7. Non è fantastico
8. È molto bello qui
9. Non è molto buono qui
10. Non è molto straordinario

1. It isn't good
2. It isn't very good for me
3. It's beautiful
4. It's fantastic
5. It's extraordinary here
6. It's extraordinary
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's very beautiful here
9. It isn't good here
10. It isn't very extraordinary

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in Italian?

1. beautiful
2. thanks
3. here
4. it is
5. yes
6. very
7. for me
8. that
9. always
10. fantastic
11. good
12. absolutely
13. I think
14. perfect
15. extraordinary
16. but
17. it isn't
18. delicious
19. that is...



1. bello
2. grazie
3. qui
4. è
5. si
6. molto
7. per me
8. quello
9. sempre
10. fantastico
11. buono
12. assolutamente
13. per me
14. perfetto
15. straordinario
16. ma
17. non è
18. squisito
19. quello è...

# 3 MINUTE PORTUGUESE

## LESSON 1

Here's your first word in Portuguese:

**bom**

It means "good"  
You pronounce it "bon(g)"  
*I've put the (g) in brackets because you say this word  
like you say the word "bong" but you don't say the 'g'  
at all. You can't even hear the 'n'*

Here's your next word:

é

It means "it is"  
*You pronounce it "ay"*

Firstly, every time I give you a new word, I'll dedicate a whole page to it and then we'll look at some sentences we can build with it.

Secondly, how do you even say these words I'm giving you? I had a feeling you might ask me. Well, I've been putting a little pronunciation guide after each word to show you how to say it. You should try saying each word out loud to yourself to get your brain used to the sound it makes.

Now, turn the page...

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is good.

It is good.  
É bom.

You'll start to notice similarities between Portuguese and English words:

fantástico

It means "fantastic"

*You pronounce it "fan-tash-tee-koo"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is fantastic.



It is fantastic.  
É fantástico.

# é fantástico

You might be wondering what that little line is on top of the á and the é.

It's called an accent. Don't worry about them too much for the time being; we'll look at them in detail in a later lesson. For now, just remember that they're there.

Here's another word that looks similar to English:

**absolutamente**

It means "absolutely"

*You pronounce it "ab-so-loo-ta-men-tuh"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is absolutely fantastic.

It is absolutely fantastic.  
É absolutamente fantástico.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bom - *good*

é - *it is*

fantástico - *fantastic*

absolutamente - *absolutely*

Here's a cute little Portuguese word:

**aqui**

It means "here"  
*You pronounce it "a-key"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is good here.



It is good here.  
É bom aqui.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is fantastic here.

It is fantastic here.  
É fantástico aqui.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

It is absolutely fantastic  
here.

É absolutamente fantástico  
aqui.

Here's a word you might recognize if you've learnt any Portuguese before:

**muito**

It means "very"  
*You pronounce it "mwee-tooh"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is very good.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bom - *good*

é - *it is*

fantástico - *fantastic*

absolutamente - *absolutely*

aqui - *here*

muito - *very*



It is very good.  
É muito bom.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is very good here.

It is very good here.  
É muito bom aqui.

The word “é” means “it is”, well, here’s the opposite:

não é

It means “it isn’t”  
*You pronounce it “now ay”*

## WORD LIST SO FAR

bom - *good*

é - *it is*

fantástico - *fantastic*

absolutamente - *absolutely*

aqui - *here*

muito - *very*

não é - *it isn't*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It isn't good.

It isn't good.  
Não é bom.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It isn't very good.



It isn't very good.  
Não é muito bom.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It isn't fantastic.

It isn't fantastic.  
Não é fantástico.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It isn't very good here.

It isn't very good here.  
Não é muito bom aqui.

You've learnt quite a few words and phrases in Portuguese now, and you've hopefully been saying them out loud so that you can master the pronunciation. Now, to really embed these words and phrases in your brain, let's do some translations.

If you grab a piece of paper and see if you can write down the following sentences in Portuguese. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

1. It's good
2. It's absolutely fantastic here
3. It's good here
4. It is very good
5. It isn't good here
6. It isn't good; it's fantastic
7. It's fantastic
8. It's fantastic here
9. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
10. It's very good here

1. É bom
2. É absolutamente fantástico aqui
3. É bom aqui
4. É muito bom
5. Não é bom aqui
6. Não é bom ; é fantástico
7. É fantástico
8. É fantástico aqui
9. Não é bom aqui ; é absolutamente fantástico
10. É muito bom aqui



Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following Portuguese sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

1. Não é muito bom
2. É muito bom
3. Não é fantástico aqui
4. É absolutamente fantástico aqui
5. Não é muito bom aqui
6. É bom
7. É fantástico aqui
8. Não é bom aqui
9. É bom aqui
10. Não é bom ; é absolutamente fantástico

1. It isn't very good
2. It's very good
3. It isn't fantastic here
4. It's absolutely fantastic here
5. It isn't very good here
6. It's good
7. It's fantastic here
8. It isn't good here
9. It's good here
10. It isn't good; it's absolutely fantastic

Let's recap the words we've learnt in this lesson.  
How did you say these words in Portuguese?

it is

absolutely

fantastic

good

here

very

it isn't

it is - **é**

absolutely - **absolutamente**

fantastic - **fantástico**

good - **bom**

here - **aqui**

very - **muito**

it isn't - **não é**

## What else?

There is plenty you can do to ensure the language stays firmly in your brain and doesn't disappear.

You can play about with building sentences from the words you've learnt so far. Whenever you find yourself with a spare 30 seconds, think of something you can say in Portuguese. Saying short sentences to yourself in Portuguese throughout the day keeps the language at the forefront of your mind.

Also, from time to time, there will be a word or two (or maybe three) that just will not stay in your memory no matter how hard you try. What you should do to overcome this is write the word down in English in big letters in the middle of a blank piece of paper. Put the piece of paper in your pocket and take it out a few times each day. Whenever you take it out, look at the English word and say the Portuguese word to yourself along with a Portuguese sentence that contains this word. The first few times, you might struggle to think of what the Portuguese word is and you'll have to double check. However, pretty quickly, you'll remember the Portuguese without having to check. You'll be amazed at how well this technique works.

Finally, before I end this first lesson, I'll just give you some information on what it means to learn a language.

Memorising lots of words isn't what it means to learn a language. It's a start but it isn't going to get you very far. What you need to be able to do is put those words together to get your thoughts and ideas across to somebody else.

Each time you learn a new word, think to yourself, "Where could I use this?"

Make up a sentence and think about where you could say it. "É muito bom" - you could say this to a waiter in a restaurant when he asks you how your meal is.

By doing this, you're giving the words relevance in your life. You'll remember things much more easily if you can see where it's going to be useful. Also, by building sentences, you're subconsciously creating a list of things to say so that you'll never be lost for words.

Even when you're in Portugal you can do this. Before entering a restaurant, for example, have a quick think about what you could say to the waiter

when you go inside. This helps to build your confidence and stops you from having to think on the spot. You'll be more likely to speak if you have already prepared something to say.



## LESSON 2

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in Portuguese?

absolutely  
it isn't  
good  
fantastic  
very  
it is  
here

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in Portuguese for this lesson:

**delicioso**

It means "delicious"

*You pronounce it "deli-see-oh-zoo"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is delicious.

It is delicious.  
É delicioso.

Here's your next word in Portuguese:

**extraordinário**

It means "extraordinary"

*You pronounce it "ekshtra-or-di-na-reoo"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is extraordinary.

It is extraordinary.  
É extraordinário.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary.



It is absolutely  
extraordinary.  
É absolutamente  
extraordinário.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.

It is absolutely  
extraordinary here.

É absolutamente  
extraordinário aqui.

Here's a beautiful little word in Portuguese:

**lindo**

It means "beautiful"  
*You pronounce it "lin-doo"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is beautiful.

It is beautiful.  
É lindo.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

delicioso - *delicious*

extraordinário - *extraordinary*

lindo - *beautiful*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is very beautiful.



It is very beautiful.  
É muito lindo.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is very beautiful here.

It is very beautiful here.  
É muito lindo aqui.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

It is absolutely beautiful  
here.

É absolutamente lindo aqui.

Here's a useful phrase in Portuguese:

para mim

It means "for me"

*You pronounce it "pa-ra min(g)"*

*Again, I've put the 'g' in brackets because you say the word "mim" like the word "ming" without the 'g'*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is for me.

It is for me.  
É para mim.



How would you say this in Portuguese?

It isn't for me.

It isn't for me.  
Não é para mim.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It isn't good for me.

It isn't good for me.  
Não é bom para mim.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It isn't very good for me.

It isn't very good for me.  
Não é muito bom para  
mim.

The phrase “para mim” actually has two meanings in Portuguese. We’ve seen it can mean “for me” but, if you put “para mim” at the start of a sentence in Portuguese, it can mean “in my opinion” or “I think”:

## para mim

It means “in my opinion” or “I think”  
*You pronounce it “pa-ra min(g)”*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think it is good.



## WORD LIST SO FAR

delicioso - *delicious*

extraordinário - *extraordinary*

lindo - *beautiful*

para mim – *for me*

para mim – *I think / in my opinion*

I think it's good.  
Para mim, é bom.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think it's very good.

I think it's very good.  
Para mim, é muito bom.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think it's delicious.

I think it's delicious.  
Para mim, é delicioso.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.

I think it's absolutely  
extraordinary here.

Para mim, é absolutamente  
extraordinário aqui.



How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think it's fantastic here.

I think it's fantastic here.  
Para mim, é fantástico aqui.

Now we've added quite a few new words to our Portuguese repertoire, let's practise putting them together into sentences.

If you grab a piece of paper, see if you can write down the following sentences in Portuguese. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

1. It's very beautiful here
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's very good
4. It's absolutely extraordinary here
5. It isn't for me
6. It isn't very good for me
7. It isn't good; it's absolutely extraordinary
8. It's absolutely delicious
9. I think it's delicious
10. I think it's fantastic

1. É muito lindo aqui
2. É absolutamente lindo
3. Para mim, é muito bom
4. É absolutamente extraordinário aqui
5. Não é para mim
6. Não é muito bom para mim
7. Não é bom; é absolutamente extraordinário
8. É absolutamente delicioso
9. Para mim, é delicioso
10. Para mim, é fantástico

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following Portuguese sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

1. É extraordinário
2. É absolutamente lindo
3. Para mim, é absolutamente lindo aqui
4. Para mim, é bom
5. É muito bom para mim
6. Não é para mim
7. É delicioso
8. Para mim, é delicioso
9. É absolutamente lindo aqui
10. Não é muito lindo

1. It's extraordinary
2. It's absolutely beautiful
3. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
4. I think it's good
5. It's very good for me
6. It isn't for me
7. It's delicious
8. I think it's delicious
9. It's absolutely beautiful here
10. It isn't very beautiful



What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.

1. It isn't very good
2. It isn't good here
3. It's absolutely fantastic here
4. It's fantastic
5. It's good here
6. It's very good here
7. It's fantastic here
8. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
9. It isn't very good here
10. It's very good

1. Não é muito bom
2. Não é bom aqui
3. É absolutamente fantástico aqui
4. É fantástico
5. É bom aqui
6. É muito bom aqui
7. É fantástico aqui
8. Não é bom aqui; é absolutamente fantástico
9. Não é muito bom aqui
10. É muito bom

Let's now do some Portuguese to English recap translations. Grab a piece of paper and see if you can work out what these sentences mean.

1. Não é bom aqui
2. Não é muito bom aqui
3. É muito bom aqui
4. É fantástico aqui
5. Não é bom aqui; é absolutamente fantástico
6. É absolutamente fantástico aqui
7. Não é fantástico
8. É bom aqui
9. É bom
10. É fantástico

1. It isn't good here
2. It isn't very good
3. It's very good here
4. It's fantastic here
5. It isn't good here; it's absolutely fantastic
6. It's absolutely fantastic here
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's good here
9. It's good
10. It's fantastic

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in Portuguese?

1. it is
2. here
3. fantastic
4. delicious
5. it isn't
6. good
7. very
8. extraordinary
9. I think
10. beautiful
11. for me
12. absolutely

1. é
2. aqui
3. fantástico
4. delicioso
5. não é
6. bom
7. muito
8. extraordinário
9. para mim
10. lindo
11. para mim
12. absolutamente



## LESSON 3

Let's start this lesson with a quick recap of the words and phrases we learnt in the last lesson. How do you say the following in Portuguese?

for me  
I think  
delicious  
extraordinary  
beautiful

If there are any words you can't remember, go back to the last lesson and have a quick review of them before you start this lesson. It's really important that you remember the words you've learnt so far before you move on to learn any more.

Here's your first word in Portuguese for this lesson:

mas

It means "but"  
*You pronounce it "mash"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

It is delicious but it isn't very  
good for me.

É delicioso mas não é muito  
bom para mim.

Here's your next word in Portuguese:

sim

It means "yes"

*You pronounce it "sin(g)"*

*You say it sort of like the word "sing" but without the  
'g' on the end*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

Yes, it's for me.

Yes, it's for me.  
Sim, é para mim.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

Yes, it's absolutely delicious.



Yes, it's absolutely delicious.

Sim, é absolutamente  
delicioso.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

Yes, I think it's good.

Yes, I think it's good.  
Sim, para mim, é bom.

Here's a common yet useful word in Portuguese:

obrigado

It means "thank you" or "thanks"  
*You pronounce it "ob-ree-gah-doo"*

# thank you

In Portuguese, the word for “thank you” is “obrigado”. However, if you’re a woman, you change it slightly to “obrigada”.

If you get this wrong, it’s not the end of the world; you’ll still be understood. Just try to remember that, if you’re a man, you should say ‘obrigado’ and if you’re a woman, you should say ‘obrigada’.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.

Yes, thank you, it's delicious.  
Sim, obrigado, é delicioso.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mas - *but*

sim - *yes*

obrigado / obrigada - *thank you*



How would you say this in Portuguese?

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.

Yes, thank you, it's fantastic.  
Sim, obrigado, é fantástico.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It's very good, thanks.

It's very good, thanks.  
É muito bom, obrigado.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

Yes, it is for me, thank you.

Yes, it is for me, thank you.  
Sim, é para mim, obrigado.

Here's a new word for you:

**sempre**

It means "always"  
*You pronounce it "saym-pruh"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It is always fantastic here.



It is always fantastic here.  
É sempre fantástico aqui.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It isn't always very good  
here.

It isn't always very good  
here.

Não é sempre muito bom  
aqui.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

I think it's always beautiful  
here.

Para mim, é sempre lindo  
aqui.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

It's always absolutely  
delicious.

É sempre absolutamente  
delicioso.

Here's a perfect little word in Portuguese:

perfeito

It means "perfect"  
*You pronounce it "pair-fay-too"*



How would you say this in Portuguese?

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mas - *but*

sim - *yes*

obrigado / obrigada - *thank you*

sempre - *always*

perfeito - *perfect*

Yes, it's perfect, thank you.  
Sim, é perfeito, obrigado.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think it's perfect.

I think it's perfect.  
Para mim, é perfeito.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It's absolutely perfect.

It's absolutely perfect.  
É absolutamente perfeito.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.



I think it's absolutely perfect  
here.

Para mim, é absolutamente  
perfeito aqui.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

It's always perfect here.

It's always perfect here.  
É sempre perfeito aqui.

Here's a useful word in Portuguese:

**isso**

It means "that"  
*You pronounce it "iss-oo"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

That for me.

That for me.  
Isso para mim.

If you put the word "isso" in front of the word "é"  
you get:

isso é

It means "that is"  
*You pronounce it "iss-oo ay"*

How would you say this in Portuguese?

That is good.



That is good.  
Isso é bom.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

That is very good.

That is very good.  
Isso é muito bom.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

That is absolutely fantastic.

That is absolutely fantastic.  
Isso é absolutamente  
fantástico.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

That is for me.

That is for me.  
Isso é para mim.

How would you say this in Portuguese?

I think that is perfect.



I think that is perfect.  
Para mim, isso é perfeito.

## WORD LIST SO FAR

mas - *but*

sim - *yes*

obrigado / obrigada - *thank you*

sempre - *always*

perfeito - *perfect*

isso - *that*

isso é - *that is*

It's time to practise what we've learnt in this lesson.

Grab a piece of paper and see if you can write down the following sentences in Portuguese. Then, turn the page and you can check the answers.

1. It's always perfect here
2. It isn't always perfect here
3. It's always absolutely fantastic here
4. It's for me, thank you
5. Yes, it's for me
6. It isn't always good here
7. It's always very good
8. I think that is absolutely perfect
9. That is delicious but it isn't very good for me
10. Yes, it's perfect, thank you

1. É sempre perfeito aqui
2. Não é sempre perfeito aqui
3. É sempre absolutamente fantástico aqui
4. É para mim, obrigado
5. Sim, é para mim
6. Não é sempre bom aqui
7. É sempre muito bom
8. Para mim, isso é absolutamente perfeito
9. Isso é delicioso ma não é muito bom para mim
10. Sim, é perfeito, obrigado

Now, let's have a go at doing some reverse translations. Again, write down the English translations of the following Portuguese sentences, then turn the page and check to see if you were correct.

1. Sim, obrigado
2. É absolutamente perfeito
3. Não é fantástico mas é muito bom
4. Para mim, é perfeito
5. É sempre absolutamente fantástico aqui
6. Para mim, é absolutamente extraordinário
7. É sempre muito bom
8. É sempre muito bom aqui
9. Sim, isso é para mim, obrigado
10. Isso é absolutamente delicioso

1. Yes, thank you
2. It's absolutely perfect
3. It isn't fantastic but it's very good
4. I think it's perfect
5. It's always absolutely fantastic here
6. I think it's absolutely extraordinary
7. It's always very good
8. It's always very good here
9. Yes, that's for me, thank you
10. That is absolutely delicious



What we're going to do now are some recap translations, which will incorporate words we learnt in the previous lesson.

1. It isn't fantastic
2. It's very good here
3. It's good here
4. It's delicious
5. I think it's absolutely beautiful here
6. It isn't very good here
7. It is absolutely fantastic
8. I think it's good
9. It is fantastic
10. It's absolutely extraordinary here

1. Não é fantástico
2. É muito bom aqui
3. É bom aqui
4. É delicioso
5. Para mim, é absolutamente lindo aqui
6. Não é muito bom aqui
7. É absolutamente fantástico
8. Para mim, é bom
9. É fantástico
10. É absolutamente extraordinário aqui

Let's now do some Portuguese to English recap translations. Grab a piece of paper and see if you can work out what these sentences mean.

1. Não é bom
2. Não é muito bom para mim
3. É lindo
4. É fantástico
5. É extraordinário aqui
6. É extraordinário
7. Não é fantástico
8. É muito lindo aqui
9. Não é muito bom aqui
10. Não é muito extraordinário

1. It isn't good
2. It isn't very good for me
3. It's beautiful
4. It's fantastic
5. It's extraordinary here
6. It's extraordinary
7. It isn't fantastic
8. It's very beautiful here
9. It isn't good here
10. It isn't very extraordinary

Let's recap all the words we've learnt so far. How did you say these words in Portuguese?

1. beautiful
2. thanks
3. here
4. it is
5. yes
6. very
7. for me
8. that
9. always
10. fantastic
11. good
12. absolutely
13. I think
14. perfect
15. extraordinary
16. but
17. it isn't
18. delicious
19. that is...

1. lindo
2. obrigado
3. aqui
4. é
5. sim
6. muito
7. para mim
8. isso
9. sempre
10. fantástico
11. bom
12. absolutamente
13. para mim
14. perfeito
15. extraordinário
16. mas
17. não é
18. delicioso
19. isso é...



MERCI, DANKE, GRACIAS,  
OBRIGADO, GRAZIE  
AND THANK YOU

Before you go, I'd like to say thank you for reading this book. I hope you have enjoyed it and I hope you've learnt a few things that might make your language learning journey a lot less troublesome.

This book contained the first few lessons of each of my 3 Minute Languages courses. If you are interested in learning more, you can find the next lessons either in book form on Amazon, or as an online course with audio and video accompaniments by visiting my website [www.3minute.club](http://www.3minute.club)

Thank you again,

Kieran