

Basics 1

Nouns: Grammatical cases * seven grammatical cases

Verbs: Present tense * three basic tenses for indicating past, present and future

Articles * Polish does not have articles

Basics 2: Pronouns and Conjugation

English Pronoun	Polish Pronoun	Example
I	ja	Ja lubie mleko.
you (singular)	ty	Ty lubisz mleko.
he	on	On lubi mleko.
she	ona	Ona lubi mleko.
it	ono	Ono lubi mleko.
we	my	My lubimy mleko.
you (plural)	wy	Wy lubicie mleko.
they (only groups of people including a male)	oni	Oni lubia mleko.
they (all other groups)	one	One lubia mleko.

Oni and one

* One: groups of female persons, groups of neuter persons and groups containing both female and neuter persons

* you always use one when referring to groups of children, animals or objects

Omitting pronouns

* when talking about yourself, you usually skip the ja pronoun, unless you want to emphasize something

* 3rd person pronouns cannot be omitted in sentences where the gender of the pronoun is used to differentiate between subjects

Polish Letters

Vowels

letter	Polish example	English approximation	IPA
a	tak	cut	[a]
ą	mają	dome / on	[ɔw̃] / [ɔm] / [ɔn]
e	cheb	bed	[ɛ]
ę	mężczyzna	sense	[ɛw̃] / [ɛm] / [ɛn] / [ɛ]
i	oni	meet	[i]
o	mleko	pore	[ɔ]
u/ó	lubie/córka	boot	[u]
y	ty	roses	[i]

Consonants

letter(s)	Polish example	English approximation	IPA
c	dziecko	cats	[ts]
ć	być	cheap	[tɕ]
cz	ciasteczka	chip	[tɕʃ] / [tʃ]
dz	jedzenie	gods	[dʒ]
dź	niedźwiedź	jeans	[dʒ]
dż	dżem	jam	[dʒ] / [dʒ]
h/ch	hak/ch	loch	[x]
j	pije	yes	[j]
ł	chłopiec	will	[w]
ń	kon	onion	[ɲ]
ś	cześć	sheep	[ɕ]
sz	proszę	ship	[ʃ] / [ʃ]
w	mówi	vine	[v]
ż	mężczyźni	vision	[ʒ]
ź/rz	mężczyzna/dobrze	treasure	[ʒ] / [ʒ]

Vocabulary: Salutation and farewells

Dzień dobry: formal

Cześć: informal

Do widzenia: formal

pa / pa pa: informal

Dobranoc: Goodbye just before you go to bed



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Gender

Masculine nouns:

- * usually end in a consonant: chłopiec, kot, ser
- * some end in -a: mężczyzna, kolega, artysta

Female nouns:

- * tend to end in -a: dziewczyna, ryba, kawa

exceptions: mysz, twarz, noc and miłość

Neutral nouns:

- * most often end in -o, -e or -ę: dziecko, jedzenie, zwierzę



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