

Estonian in everyday situations

Module 4: Photos on the wall

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

Photos on the wall

Estonian

Read & listen online



Minu pere, mul on vend

Form	Example	Meaning
vend	Mul on üks vend.	I have one brother.
venda	Tal ei ole venda.	He/she does not have a brother.
venna	See on minu venna foto.	This is my brother's photo.
õde	Mul on üks õde.	I have one sister.
aastat	Ma olen kolmkümmend aastat vana.	I am thirty years old.
kuud	Beebi on kuus kuud vana.	The baby is six months old.

A family is **pere** or **perekond**. A brother is **vend/venna/venda** and sister **õde/õe/õde**. **Mul on üks noorem vend ja üks vanem õde** means I have one younger brother and one older sister. Comparative **noorem/vanem** are learned as these useful family descriptions first.

Age uses **olema**, not a have verb: **Ma olen kolmkümmend aastat vana**. After six use partitive **kuus kuud**. Grandchild **lapselaps** is gender-neutral; context identifies a grandson or granddaughter. **Ta oli hea mees** is a past-state chunk, explained fully in this module.

Kümnendal juulil

Form	Example	Meaning
kümnendal	Sünnipäev on kümnendal juulil.	The birthday is on the tenth of July.
juulil	Kümnendal juulil.	On the tenth of July.
märtsil	Kahekümne kaheksandal märtsil.	On the twenty-eighth of March.
esimene	See on esimene küsimus.	This is the first question.
teine	See on teine küsimus.	This is the second question.
märtsis	Ma elan siin märtsis.	I live here in March.

An ordinal gives a position: **esimene, teine, kolmas, kümnes**. For birthday dates use an ordinal with **-l**: **kümnendal juulil, kahekümne kaheksandal märtsil**. In a heading or on a form, **kümnes juuli** is a nominative date.

Month names are **jaanuar, veebruar, märts, aprill, mai, juuni, juuli, august, september, oktoober, november, detsember**. For in a month use **jaanuaris, veebruaris, märtsis, aprillis, mais, juunis, juulis, augustis, septembris, oktoobris, novembris, detsembris**. Learn **sündisin** as a birth-date chunk when needed.

Pruunid silmad, lokkis juuksed

Form	Example	Meaning
pikk	Jaan on pikk.	Jaan is tall.
väike	Leena on väike.	Leena is small.
pruunid	Jaanil on pruunid silmad.	Jaan has brown eyes.
mustad	Tal on mustad juuksed.	He/she has black hair.
meeldib	Mulle meeldib kook.	I like cake.
meeldivad	Mulle meeldivad koogid.	I like cakes.

A person can be **pikk**, **lühike**, **noor**, **vana**. Describing words do not change for a person's gender. Plural eyes and hair use **pruunid silmad**, **mustad juuksed**. Head hair is normally plural **juuksed**; one animal hair is **karv**.

Possession still uses a possessor form: **Jaanil on pruunid silmad**. The adjective **lokkis** is learned as a describing chunk in **lokkis juuksed**. **Mulle meeldib** means I like; plural things use **mulle meeldivad**: **mulle meeldivad koogid**.

Mulle, sulle, talle

Form	Example	Meaning
mulle	See on mulle.	This is for me.
sulle	See on sulle.	This is for you, familiar.
talle	See on talle.	This is for him/her.
meile	See on meile.	This is for us.
annan	Ma annan võtme.	I give the key.
Liisile	See on Liisile.	This is for Liis.

Recipient forms are **mulle, sulle, talle, meile, teile, neile**. These are allative pronoun forms and answer to whom. Giving is **annan, annad, annab, anname, annate, annavad**.

A name normally adds **-le** to its genitive: **Liis/Liisi/Liisile, Jaan/Jaani/Jaanile**. Another option is genitive plus **jaoks**: **Liisi jaoks**. A completed giving event can have a genitive object: **annan raamatu**. The childhood form **mängisid** is an early past chunk here.

Olin, olid, oli

Person	olema	Meaning
mina	olin	I — was/were
sina	olid	you, familiar singular — was/were
tema	oli	he/she — was/were
meie	olime	we — was/were
teie	olite	you, plural/polite — was/were
nemad	olid	they — was/were

The past tense describes an earlier time. Simple past **olema** is **olin, olid, oli, olime, olite, olid**. The verb has no distinction for the speaker's sex. The same **olid** serves familiar you and they.

Regular **-si-** past often uses **-sin, -sid, -s, -sime, -site, -sid**: **elasin, elasid, elas, elasime, elasite, elasid**. Learn early **Ma elasin siin, kui ma olin väike** for a childhood memory. Past negation uses **ei olnud**, the same for all persons; **polnud** is a contraction.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

- 1 Mina olen Lukas. Ma olen kolmkümmend aastat vana.

Meaning: I am Lukas. I am thirty years old.

- 2 Mina olen Lena. Ma olen kolmkümmend aastat vana.

Meaning: I am Lena. I am thirty years old.

- 3 Mina olen Lukas. See on teine küsimus.

Meaning: I am Lukas. This is the second question.

- 4 Mina olen Lena. See on teine küsimus.

Meaning: I am Lena. This is the second question.

- 5 Mina olen Lukas. Mulle meeldib kook.

Meaning: I am Lukas. I like cake.

- 6 Mina olen Lena. Mulle meeldib kook.

Meaning: I am Lena. I like cake.

- 7 Mina olen Lukas. Ma annan võtme.

Meaning: I am Lukas. I give the key.

- 8 Mina olen Lena. Ma annan võtme.

Meaning: I am Lena. I give the key.

G2) MIXED PERSON FORMS 1

Choose the right word for the gap.

- 1 Ma _____ siin.

- ☐ A olin
☐ B olid
☐ C oli

Meaning: I was here.

2 Sa _____ siin.

- ☐ A oli
- ☐ B olid
- ☐ C olin

Meaning: You (familiar singular) were here.

3 Ta _____ siin.

- ☐ A olin
- ☐ B oli
- ☐ C olid

Meaning: He/she was here.

4 Me _____ siin.

- ☐ A olid
- ☐ B olime
- ☐ C olin

Meaning: We were here.

5 Te _____ siin.

- ☐ A olin
- ☐ B olite
- ☐ C olid

Meaning: You (polite/plural) were here.

G3) RECALL THE PERSON FORMS 1

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

olid oli olime olin

Ma _____ siin.

Meaning: I was here.

oli olime olin olid

Sa _____ siin.

Meaning: You (familiar singular) were here.

olime olid oli olin

Ta _____ siin.

Meaning: He/she was here.

oli olime olid olin

Me _____ siin.

Meaning: We were here.

olid oli olin olite

Te _____ siin.

Meaning: You (polite/plural) were here.

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

- 1
- Mina Ma vana. olen kolmkümmend olen Lukas.
aastat
-

Meaning: I am Lukas. I am thirty years old.

- 2
- Mina Lena. olen aastat vana. Ma olen kolmkümmend
-

Meaning: I am Lena. I am thirty years old.

- 3
- küsimus. See Mina Lukas. olen teine on
-

Meaning: I am Lukas. This is the second question.

4 Mina on teine olen See küsimus. Lena.

Meaning: I am Lena. This is the second question.

5 Mina olen kook. meeldib Mulle Lukas.

Meaning: I am Lukas. I like cake.

6 meeldib kook. Lena. Mina olen Mulle

Meaning: I am Lena. I like cake.

7 annan Lukas. Mina Ma võtme. olen

Meaning: I am Lukas. I give the key.

8 Ma võtme. annan Mina olen Lena.

Meaning: I am Lena. I give the key.

9 siin. Lukas. Te olen Mina olite

Meaning: I am Lukas. You were here, polite/plural.

10 Te Lena. Mina siin. olen olite

Meaning: I am Lena. You were here, polite/plural.

11 Mul vend. on üks

Meaning: I have one brother.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 Lukas: I am Lukas/Lena. I am thirty years old. You say:**
 - ☐ A Mina olen Lukas. Ma olen kolmkümmend aasta vana.
 - ☐ B Mina olen Lukas. Ma olen kolmkümmend aastat vana.

- 2 Lena: I am Lukas/Lena. I am thirty years old. You say:**
 - ☐ A Mina olen Lena. Ma olen kolmkümmend aasta vana.
 - ☐ B Mina olen Lena. Ma olen kolmkümmend aastat vana.

- 3 Lukas: I am Lukas/Lena. This is the second question. You say:**
 - ☐ A Mina olen Lukas. See on teine küsimus.
 - ☐ B Mina olen Lukas. See on teise küsimus.

- 4 Lena: I am Lukas/Lena. This is the second question. You say:**
 - ☐ A Mina olen Lena. See on teise küsimus.
 - ☐ B Mina olen Lena. See on teine küsimus.

- 5 Lukas: I am Lukas/Lena. I like cake. You say:**
 - ☐ A Mina olen Lukas. Mulle meeldivad kook.
 - ☐ B Mina olen Lukas. Mulle meeldib kook.

6 Lena: I am Lukas/Lena. I like cake. You say:

- ☐ A Mina olen Lena. Mulle meeldivad kook.
- ☐ B Mina olen Lena. Mulle meeldib kook.

7 Lukas: I am Lukas/Lena. I give the key. You say:

- ☐ A Mina olen Lukas. Ma annan võtme.
- ☐ B Mina olen Lukas. Ma annad võtme.

8 Lena: I am Lukas/Lena. I give the key. You say:

- ☐ A Mina olen Lena. Ma annan võtme.
- ☐ B Mina olen Lena. Ma annad võtme.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ① Mina olen Lena. Te olite siin. | ① A I am Lena. You were here, polite/plural. |
| ② Sünnipäev on kümnendal juulil. | ② B I have one brother. |
| ③ Jaan on pikk. | ③ C I am Lena. I give the key. |
| ④ Mina olen Lena. See on teine küsimus. | ④ D I am Lena. This is the second question. |
| ⑤ Mina olen Lena. Mulle meeldib kook. | ⑤ E The birthday is on the tenth of July. |
| ⑥ Mul on üks vend. | ⑥ F I am Lena. I like cake. |
| ⑦ Mina olen Lena. Ma annan võtme. | ⑦ G Jaan is tall. |

- ⑧ Mina olen Lena. Ma olen kolmkümmend aastat vana. ⑧ I am Lena. I am thirty years old.