

Slovene in everyday situations

Module 4: Photos on the wall

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

Photos on the wall

Slovenian

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brata, sestro, moj, njen

Form	Example	Meaning
brata	Imam brata.	I have a brother.
sestro	Imam sestro.	I have a sister.
Murija	Vidim Murija.	I see Muri.
njena	To je njena hči.	This is her daughter.
starejšo	Sem nov sosed. Imam starejšo sestro.	I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.
mlajšega	Sem nov sosed. Imam mlajšega brata.	I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

For a male person or animal, the masculine accusative normally matches the genitive: **brat** → **brata**, **maček** → **mačka**, **Muri** → **Murija**. Feminine direct objects still commonly end in **-o**: **sestro**, **mamo**.

Possessives agree with the thing or person owned: **moj brat**, **moja sestra**, **njegov sin**, **njena hči**, **naša družina**. Use **imam starejšo sestro** in **mlajšega brata**. **Hči** is irregular: accusative **hčer**, genitive **hčere**.

star sem, desetega julija

Form	Example	Meaning
let	Imam trideset let.	I am thirty years old.
mesecev	Dojenček ima šest mesecev.	The baby is six months old.
julija	Rojstni dan imam desetega julija.	My birthday is on the tenth of July.
osemindvajsetega	Nika ima rojstni dan osemindvajsetega marca.	Nika's birthday is on the twenty-eighth of March.
Star	Star sem trideset let.	I am thirty years old.
Rojen	Rojen sem desetega julija.	I was born on the tenth of July.

Age can be expressed as **imam trideset let** or **star sem trideset let** (male) / **stara sem trideset let** (female). **Leto** becomes **let** after five or more. For a baby use **šest mesecev**.

For a birthday date use the genitive ordinal and month: **desetega julija, osemindvajsetega marca**. The calendar label can be nominative **deseti julij**. Learn **rojen sem / rojena sem** as a birth-date chunk now; past participle formation follows later.

rjave oči, dolge lase

Form	Example	Meaning
visok	Jure je visok.	Jure is tall.
nizka	Ana je nizka.	Ana is short.
oči	Jure ima rjave oči.	Jure has brown eyes.
lase	Jure ima dolge lase.	Jure has long hair.
visok	Sem visok.	I am tall.
rjave	Sem nov sosed. Imam rjave oči.	I am the new neighbour. I have brown eyes.

Use a nominative adjective after **biti**: **Jure je visok, Ana je nizka.**
 For something someone has, use accusative agreement: **ima rjave oči, ima dolge lase, ima črne kodraste lase.**

Oko has irregular plural **oči**. Head hair is normally plural **lasje**; the accusative is **lase**. An animal's hair is **dlaka**. Keep these as separate words rather than treating one English word as one Slovene form.

Niki, za Niko, zate

Form	Example	Meaning
Niki	Dam Niki darilo.	I give Nika a present.
Niko	To je darilo za Niko.	This is a present for Nika.
Juretu	Dam Juretu ključ.	I give Jure a key.
mi	Maja mi da torto.	Maja gives me cake.
zame	Vesel sem. Darilo je zame.	I am happy. The present is for me.
mami	Vesel sem. Dam darilo mami.	I am happy. I give Mum a present.

The dative identifies who receives something: **dam Niki darilo, dam mami knjigo, dam Juretu ključ.** Ask **Komu?** Common feminine singular dative is **-i**; masculine **-u** with stem changes in names such as **Jure → Juretu**.

With **za** (for), use the accusative: **darilo za Niko, za mamo, za Jureta**. Pronoun chunks include **zate** (for you, familiar), **za vas** (for you, polite), **zame** (for me). Dative **mi/ti** can be short: **Maja mi da torto**.

sem bil, sem bila

Form	Example	Meaning
bil	Jure je bil tukaj.	Jure was here.
bila	Maja je bila tukaj.	Maja was here.
bilo	Stanovanje je bilo prazno.	The flat was empty.
je	Včeraj je bila Maja tukaj.	Maja was here yesterday.
bil	Včeraj sem bil doma.	I was at home yesterday.
bil	Nisem bil lačen.	I was not hungry.

Build the past tense with present **biti** plus an **-l** participle. A male speaker says **bil sem**, a female speaker **bila sem**. For another person use **Jure je bil, Maja je bila**, neuter **stanovanje je bilo**.

The short auxiliary normally follows the first phrase: **Včeraj sem bil doma, Jure je bil tukaj**. Starting directly with the participle is natural: **Bil sem doma**. Negation uses **nisem bil, nisem bila**. Begin with **biti**, then reuse the pattern with familiar verbs later.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS**

Underline the form described in this unit.

- 1 Imam brata.

Meaning: I have a brother.

- 2 Imam trideset let.

Meaning: I am thirty years old.

- 3 Jure je visok.

Meaning: Jure is tall.

- 4 Dam Niki darilo.

Meaning: I give Nika a present.

- 5 Jure je bil tukaj.

Meaning: Jure was here.

6 Sem nov sosed. Imam starejšo sestro.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.

7 Sem nova sosedica. Imam starejšo sestro.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.

8 Sem nov sosed. Imam mlajšega brata.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

9 Sem nova sosedica. Imam mlajšega brata.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

10 Vidim Murijo.

Meaning: I see Muri.

11 Rojstni dan imam desetega julija.

Meaning: My birthday is on the tenth of July.

12 Jure ima rjave oči.

Meaning: Jure has brown eyes.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Imam _____.

- ☐ A brata
- ☐ B brat
- ☐ C bratu

Meaning: I have a brother.

2 Imam trideset _____.

- ☐ A leti
- ☐ B let
- ☐ C leto

Meaning: I am thirty years old.

3 Jure je _____.

- ☐ A visoka
- ☐ B visok
- ☐ C visoko

Meaning: Jure is tall.

4 Dam _____ darilo.

- ☐ A Niko
- ☐ B Niki
- ☐ C Nika

Meaning: I give Nika a present.

5 Jure je _____ tukaj.

- ☐ A bila
- ☐ B bil
- ☐ C bilo

Meaning: Jure was here.

6 Lukas: Sem nov sosed. Imam _____ sestro.

- ☐ A starejšo
- ☐ B starejši
- ☐ C starejša

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.

7 Lena: Sem nova soseda. Imam _____ sestro.

- ☐ A starejša
- ☐ B starejši
- ☐ C starejšo

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.

8 Lukas: Sem nov sosed. Imam _____ brata.

- ☐ A mlajša
- ☐ B mlajšega
- ☐ C mlajši

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

9 Lena: Sem nova sosedka. Imam _____ brata.

- ☐ A mlajšega
- ☐ B mlajši
- ☐ C mlajša

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

10 Vidim _____.

- ☐ A Muriju
- ☐ B Murija
- ☐ C Muri

Meaning: I see Muri.

11 Rojstni dan imam desetega _____.

- ☐ A julija
- ☐ B julij
- ☐ C juliju

Meaning: My birthday is on the tenth of July.

12 Jure ima rjave _____.

- ☐ A oči
- ☐ B oko
- ☐ C očesu

Meaning: Jure has brown eyes.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

brat brata

Imam _____.

Meaning: I have a brother.

leto let

Imam trideset _____.

Meaning: I am thirty years old.

visoka visok

Jure je _____.

Meaning: Jure is tall.

Nika Niki

Dam _____ darilo.

Meaning: I give Nika a present.

bila bil

Jure je _____ tukaj.

Meaning: Jure was here.

starejša starejšo

Lukas: Sem nov sosed. Imam _____ sestro.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.

starejša starejšo

Lena: Sem nova soseda. Imam _____ sestro.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.

mlajši mlajšega

Lukas: Sem nov sosed. Imam _____ brata.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

mlajši mlajšega

Lena: Sem nova sosedka. Imam _____ brata.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

Muri Murija

Vidim _____.

Meaning: I see Muri.

julij julija

Rojstni dan imam desetega _____.

Meaning: My birthday is on the tenth of July.

oko oči

Jure ima rjave _____.

Meaning: Jure has brown eyes.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

1 let. trideset Imam

Meaning: I am thirty years old.

2 Jure je visok.

Meaning: Jure is tall.

3 Dam Niki darilo.

Meaning: I give Nika a present.

4 je bil tukaj. Jure

Meaning: Jure was here.

5 sosed. sestro. Imam nov Sem starejšo

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.

6 nova Imam starejšo soseda. sestro. Sem

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have an older sister.

7 Sem sosed. mlajšega brata. nov Imam

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

8 brata. nova Sem mlajšega Imam soseda.

Meaning: I am a new neighbour. I have a younger brother.

9 julija. Rojstni dan imam desetega

Meaning: My birthday is on the tenth of July.

10 ima rjave Jure oči.

Meaning: Jure has brown eyes.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 I have a brother. You say:

- ☐ A Imam brat.
- ☐ B Imam brata.

2 I am thirty years old. You say:

- ☐ A Imam trideset leto.
- ☐ B Imam trideset let.

3 Jure is tall. You say:

- ☐ A Jure je visok.
- ☐ B Jure je visoka.

4 I give Nika a present. You say:

- ☐ A Dam Nika darilo.
- ☐ B Dam Niki darilo.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ① Jure je bil tukaj. | ① A Jure was here. |
| ② Sem nova sosedka.
Imam mlajšega
brata. | ② B I am a new neighbour. I have an
older sister. |
| ③ Vidim Murija. | ③ C I give Nika a present. |
| ④ Imam trideset let. | ④ D I am thirty years old. |
| ⑤ Jure je visok. | ⑤ E I am a new neighbour. I have a
younger brother. |
| ⑥ Sem nova sosedka.
Imam starejšo
sestro. | ⑥ F Jure is tall. |
| ⑦ Dam Niki darilo. | ⑦ G I see Muri. |
| ⑧ Imam brata. | ⑧ H I have a brother. |