

Danish in everyday situations

Module 1: Arrival

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

Arrival

Danish

Read & listen online ↗



Jeg er / du er

Use **jeg**, **du**, **han** and **hun** for I, you, he and she.

The present of **være** is **er** for every person.

Danish normally needs an explicit subject.

In ordinary Danish, **du** is friendly and normal with neighbours and staff; **De** is a distinctly formal choice, not the default.

Learn **jeg hedder** (my name is) as a useful introduction.

Er du ...? / ikke

Put the finite verb before the subject in a yes/no question: **Er du ny?** and **Har du nøglen?** In an ordinary statement, **ikke** usually follows the finite verb: **Han er ikke min kat.** Do not add an English-style auxiliary to make a question.

En / et / vil gerne

Danish nouns have common or neuter gender.

Learn the article with the noun: **en kop, en kat, et hus.**

The choice depends on the noun, not a person's sex.

Say **Jeg vil gerne have ...** to make a polite request.

After **vil**, use the infinitive **have**, without **at**.

Short orders such as **En kop kaffe, tak** are natural.

Bor / spiller / sover

Most present-tense verbs add **-r** to the infinitive: **bo** → **bor**, **spille** → **spiller**, **sove** → **sover**.

The same form is used with every subject.

In statements, the subject normally comes before the finite verb.

The phrases **kan ikke sove** and **vil gerne sove** contain an infinitive after the modal verb.

Min / mit / mine

Use **min** with a singular common-gender noun, **mit** with a singular neuter noun and **mine** with plural nouns: **min nøgle, mit hus, mine ting**.

These agree with the thing owned, not with the owner. **Din, dit, dine** work the same way.

Place words such as **ovenpå, nedenunder, her** and **der** often stand at the end of the sentence.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

1 Jeg er din nabo.

Meaning: I am your neighbour.

2 Er du min nabo?

Meaning: Are you my neighbour?

3 Det er en kop.

Meaning: It is a cup.

4 Jeg bor nedeunder.

Meaning: I live downstairs.

G2) CHOOSE THE DANISH FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Jeg _____ din nabo.

- ☐ A var
- ☐ B være
- ☐ C er

Meaning: I am your neighbour.

2 _____ du min nabo?

- ☐ A Være
- ☐ B Var
- ☐ C Er

Meaning: Are you my neighbour?

3 Det er _____ kop.

- ☐ A en
- ☐ B et
- ☐ C to

Meaning: It is a cup.

4 Jeg _____ nedeunder.

- ☐ A bo
- ☐ B bor
- ☐ C boede

Meaning: I live downstairs.

5 Det er _____ nøgle.

- ☐ A min
- ☐ B mine
- ☐ C mit

Meaning: It is my key.

6 Han _____ en kat.

- ☐ A være
- ☐ B var
- ☐ C er

Meaning: He is a cat.

7 Han er _____ slem.

- ☐ A og
- ☐ B ikke
- ☐ C ja

Meaning: He is not bad.

8 Jeg vil gerne _____ te.

- ☐ A har
- ☐ B have
- ☐ C havde

Meaning: I would like tea.

G3) COMPLETE A MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

være er

Jeg _____ din nabo.

Meaning: I am your neighbour.

Være Er

_____ du min nabo?

Meaning: Are you my neighbour?

et en

Det er _____ kop.

Meaning: It is a cup.

bo bor

Jeg _____ nedenunder.

Meaning: I live downstairs.

mit min

Det er _____ nøgle.

Meaning: It is my key.

være er

Han _____ en kat.

Meaning: He is a cat.

ja ikke

Han er _____ slem.

Meaning: He is not bad.

har have

Jeg vil gerne _____ te.

Meaning: I would like tea.

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1 Jeg er din nabo.

Meaning: I am your neighbour.

2 du nabo? min Er

Meaning: Are you my neighbour?

3 kop. en er Det

Meaning: It is a cup.

4 Jeg nedenunder. bor

Meaning: I live downstairs.

5 min Det nøgle. er

Meaning: It is my key.

6 en er kat. Han

Meaning: He is a cat.

7 ikke er Han slem.

Meaning: He is not bad.

8 gerne te. have vil Jeg

Meaning: I would like tea.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 I am your neighbour. You say:

- ☐ A Jeg er din nabo.
- ☐ B Jeg være din nabo.

2 Are you my neighbour? You say:

- ☐ A Er du min nabo?
- ☐ B Være du min nabo?

3 It is a cup. You say:

- ☐ A Det er en kop.
- ☐ B Det er et kop.

4 I live downstairs. You say:

- ☐ A Jeg bor nedenunder.
- ☐ B Jeg bo nedenunder.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| ① Han er ikke slem. | ① A It is a cup. |
| ② Det er en kop. | ② B He is a cat. |
| ③ Jeg vil gerne have te. | ③ C It is my key. |
| ④ Er du min nabo? | ④ D I would like tea. |
| ⑤ Jeg bor nedenunder. | ⑤ E Are you my neighbour? |
| ⑥ Han er en kat. | ⑥ F I live downstairs. |
| ⑦ Det er min nøgle. | ⑦ G He is not bad. |
| ⑧ Jeg er din nabo. | ⑧ H I am your neighbour. |