

SCENE 35 • NUMBER 7

Il-kowt tax-xita

Friday, the first rehearsal on the square. A storm. You come back soaked again. The yellow jacket is not a raincoat.

125 Words • 5 Exercises • Duration: 15 min.

The weather and what to wear

Maltese

Read & listen online



LEARNING GOAL

I can say why something is so, and give and accept a compliment.

Marija = ■ Lena (Lukas) = O

Learning as Lukas? Use the words in brackets.

Friday evening. After the first festa rehearsal on the square, where you helped set up the café stall in a storm, you come up the stairs, dripping.

■ Imxarrba (Imxarrab) mill-ġdid!

○ Hemm maltempata barra! Il-ħwejjeg tiegħi mxarrbin, u ż-żraben ukoll.

■ U l-umbrella fejn hi?

○ Fl-uffiċċju, għax filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx.

■ Filgħodu dejjem hemm ix-xemx.

■ U l-ġakketta s-safra?

○ Imxarrba wkoll. Hi sħuna, imma mhix kowt tax-xita.

■ Il-ġakketta għall-bard, mhux għax-xita. Għalhekk għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita.

She goes to the cupboard on the landing and comes back with an old green raincoat.

■ Stenna.

■ Il-kowt tax-xita tiegħi. Qadim, imma tajjeb. Ilbes!

○ Niexef! U sħun ħafna.

■ Jixraqlek. Aħjar mill-ġakketta s-safra.

○ Grazzi! Kemm għandu żmien?

■ Erbgħin sena. Akbar minnek!

Something heavy is in the pocket.

○ X'hemm fil-but? Ċavetta. Qadima u tqila.

You read the old paper label on it.

○ "Il-kamra tal-bejt." Iċ-ċavetta tal-kamra tal-bejt?

■ Żommha.

○ Għaliex jien?

■ Għax issa int tan-numru sebgħa.

○ U x'hemm fil-kamra tal-bejt?

■ Affarijiet qodma. Ħafna affarijiet qodma.

You sneeze.

○ Atxù!

■ Saħħa! Għandek riħ. Allura, te u għas-sodda. Issa!

○ Imma għada hemm il-prova...

■ Għada trid toqgħod mimduda (**mimdud**) fis-sodda. Il-ġurnata kollha.

○ Iva, Sinjura Marija.

■ U issa mmur ingib it-te.

*Tixrob it-te fis-sodda. Il-kowt tax-xita mdendel fuq is-siġġu, u ċ-
ċavetta fuq il-mejda. Ċikku bilqiegħda ħdejn iċ-ċavetta, u
jħares lejha fit-tul.*

Vocabulary

DOING THINGS • AZZJONIJIET

jilbes

put on

Ilbes il-ġakketta: put on the jacket.

iżomm

keep

Żommha: keep it (for a feminine word).

Also hold: żomm sew, hold tight.

jimtedd

lie (in bed)

To lie down. Lying in bed: mimdud (m),
mimduda (f). To stay in bed: toqgħod fis-
sodda.

iġib

bring

Ġibli: bring me. Also fetch: immur iġib il-
ħobż, I'll go and get the bread.

CLOTHES • HWEJJEĠ

kowt tax-xita

raincoat

Literally: a coat of the rain. A coat: kowt.

but

pocket

Several pockets: bwiet. Fil-but: in the
pocket.

SMALL WORDS • KLIEM ŻGħIR

ħaġa

thing

Several things: affarijiet. Something: xi ħaġa.

AT HOME • FID-DAR

kamra tal-bejt

roof room

Maltese houses have flat roofs and no attic:
old things go up to the room on the roof, il-
kamra tal-bejt.

LIFE AND WORK • IL-ĦAJJA U X-XOGħOL

prova

rehearsal

Also a test, a try. Several: provi.

WHAT THINGS AND PEOPLE ARE LIKE • KIF INHU? KIF INHI?

imxarrab

wet

imxarrab (m) · mxarrba (f) · mxarrbin (pl):
soaked. After a vowel the i drops: kont
mxarrab.

niexef

dry

niexef (m) · niexfa (f) · nexfin (pl)

WEATHER · IT-TEMP**maltempata**

storm

LISTENING & UNDERSTANDING**L1) WHO SAYS IT**

Read the dialogue again. Who says these words? Tick the right person.

1 Għax issa int tan-numru sebgħa.

- ☐ A Lena
- ☐ B Marija

L2) WHAT DOES IT MEAN

Tick the right English meaning.

1 Il-ġakketta għall-bard, mhux għax-xita. Għalhekk għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita.

- ☐ A At the office, because in the morning it was sunny.
- ☐ B A jacket is for the cold, not for the rain. That's why you need a raincoat.
- ☐ C And now I'll go and get the tea.

L3) HOW DO YOU SAY IT

Tick the right Maltese sentence.

1 At the office, because in the morning it was sunny.

- ☐ A Fl-uffiċċju, għax filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx.
- ☐ B U x'hemm fil-kamra tal-bejt?
- ☐ C Niexef! U sħun ħafna.

L4) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Write the words in the right order on the line.

1

Jixraqlek.

s-safra.

Aħjar

mill-ġakketta

L5) WHAT HAPPENS FIRST

Number the lines in the order they come in the scene.

- ☐ Erbgħin sena. Akbar minnek!
- ☐ Fl-uffiċċju, għax filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx.
- ☐ U x'hemm fil-kamra tal-bejt?
- ☐ Għada trid toqgħod mimduda fis-sodda. Il-ġurnata kollha.
- ☐ Il-kowt tax-xita tiegħi. Qadim, imma tajjeb. Ilbes!

SCENE 35 • WORDS

Il-kowt tax-xita

The raincoat

4 Exercises • Duration: 10 min.

The weather and what to wear

Maltese

Read & listen online ↗

imxarrab
wet



maltempata
storm



kowt tax-xita
raincoat



jilbes
put on



niexef
dry



but
pocket



kamra tal-bejt
roof room



iżomm
keep



prova
rehearsal



jimtedd
lie (in bed)



iġib
bring

Words

imxarrab

wet

Imxarrba mill-ġdid!

maltempata

storm

Hemm maltempata barra! Il-ħwejjeg tiegħi mxarrbin, u ż-żraben ukoll.

kowt tax-xita

raincoat

Imxarrba wkoll. Hi sħuna, imma mhix kowt tax-xita.

jilbes

put on

Il-kowt tax-xita tiegħi. Qadim, imma tajjeb. Ilbes!

niexef

dry

Niexef! U sħun ħafna.

but

pocket

X'hemm fil-but? Ċavetta. Qadima u tqila.

kamra tal-bejt

roof room

U x'hemm fil-kamra tal-bejt?

iżomm

keep

Żommha.

ħaġa

thing

Affarijiet qodma. Ħafna affarijiet qodma.

prova

rehearsal

Imma għada hemm il-prova...

jimtedd

lie (in bed)

Għada trid toqgħod mimduda fis-sodda. Il-ġurnata kollha.

iġib

bring

U issa mmur iġib it-te.

VOCABULARY & COMMUNICATION**W1) WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

What does it mean?

1 maltempata

- ☐ A spoon
- ☐ B storm
- ☐ C quarter

2 imxarrab

- ☐ A bank
- ☐ B wet
- ☐ C on

3 jimtedd

- ☐ A midnight
- ☐ B lie (in bed)
- ☐ C afternoon

4 but

- ☐ A Friday
- ☐ B pocket
- ☐ C page

5 ħaġa

- ☐ A fridge
- ☐ B suit (it suits you)
- ☐ C thing

6 iżomm

- ☐ A keep
- ☐ B pay
- ☐ C cup

W2) WET AGAIN

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

Niexef Imxarrba

_____ mill-ġdid!

Meaning: Wet again!

mxarrbin niexef maltempata

Hemm _____ barra! Il-ħwejjeg tiegħi _____.

Meaning: There's a storm outside! My clothes are wet.

Żommha Ilbes

Il-kowt tax-xita tiegħi. Qadim, imma tajjeb. _____!

Meaning: My raincoat. Old, but good. Put it on!

Imxarrab Niexef

_____! U sħun ħafna.

Meaning: It's dry! And very warm.

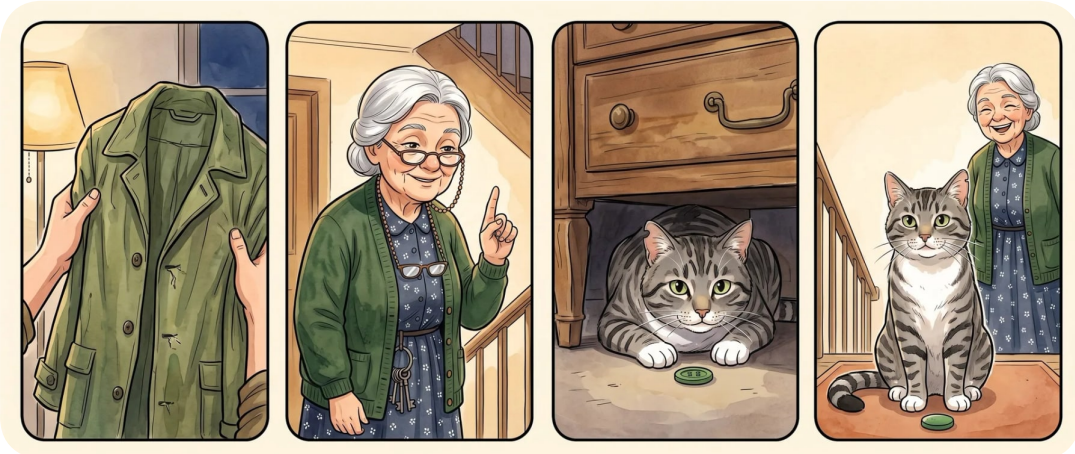
kowt but

X'hemm fil-_____? Ċavetta.

Meaning: What's in the pocket? A key.

W3) SOMETHING GREEN

Fill the speech bubbles.



but imxarrab Żommha tiegħek biss Naf niexef

Lena: Sinjura Marija, il-kowt _____, imma hawn kien hemm xi
ħaġa ħadra.

Marija: Ħaġa ħadra? _____ min għandha.

Marija: Ċikku! Dik mhix _____!

Lena: _____, Ċikku. Imma waħda _____!

Meaning: 1. Mrs Marija, the raincoat is dry, but there was something green here.

2. Something green? I know who has it.

3. Ċikku! That's not yours!

4. Keep it, Ċikku. But only one!

W4) WET AND DRY

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| ① Ilbes! | Ⓐ dry |
| ② imxarrab | Ⓑ raincoat |
| ③ kowt tax-xita | Ⓒ pocket |
| ④ maltempata | Ⓓ storm |
| ⑤ but | Ⓔ soaked, wet |
| ⑥ Saħħa! | Ⓕ You've got a cold. |
| ⑦ niexef | Ⓖ Put it on! |
| ⑧ Għandek riħ. | Ⓗ Bless you! |

SCENE 35 • GRAMMAR

Għaliex? Għax... Allura...

Why, because, and so

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

The weather and what to wear

Maltese

Read & listen online



Għaliex? asks why, and the answer starts with **għax**, because:
Għaliex jien? Għax issa int tan-numru sebgħa. Why me? Because now you're one of number 7. After **għax** comes a whole sentence, with its own verb or its own **hemm**: **għax filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx**, because in the morning it was sunny. **Kien hemm**, there was, is the past of **hemm**.

The other way round, from the reason to what follows, Maltese says **allura**, so, or **għalhekk**, that's why: **Il-ġakketta għall-bard, mhux għax-xita. Għalhekk għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita. Allura** also starts a sentence, the way English so does: **Allura, te u għas-sodda!**

WHY, BECAUSE, SO

Word	Example	Meaning
għaliex?	Għaliex jien?	why? · Why me?
għax	Għax issa int tan-numru sebgħa.	because · Because now you're one of number 7.
allura	Għandek riħ. Allura, għas-sodda!	so · You've got a cold. So, off to bed!
għalhekk	Għalhekk għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita.	that's why · That's why you need a raincoat.

Don't mix up **għax**, because, with **għax-**, for the before an x: **waħda għax-xemx**, one for the sun. The hyphen tells them apart.

Fl-uffiċċju, għax filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx.

At the office, because in the morning it was sunny.

Saħħa! Għandek riħ. Allura, te u għas-sodda. Issa!

Bless you! You've got a cold. So: tea, and off to bed. Now!

Ġejja x-xita, għalhekk Ċikku ma jridx joħroġ.

Rain is coming, that's why Ċikku doesn't want to go out.

TIP

Ilbes!, put it on!, is the imperative of jilbes, to put on or wear. You know it from X'daqs tilbes?, what size do you wear? Ilbes il-kowt, għax barra hemm ix-xita.

GRAMMAR

G1) FIND THE WORDS

Underline the words that ask why, give a reason, or say what follows.

1

Fl-uffiċċju,

għax

filgħodu

kien

hemm

ix-xemx.

Meaning: At the office, because in the morning it was sunny.

- 2 Għalhekk għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita.

Meaning: That's why you need a raincoat.

- 3 Saħħa! Għandek riħ. Allura, te u għas-sodda!

Meaning: Bless you! You've got a cold. So: tea, and off to bed!

- 4 Għaliex jien?

Meaning: Why me?

- 5 Qed tagħmel ix-xita, allura Ċikku ma jridx joħroġ.

Meaning: It's raining, so Ċikku doesn't want to go out.

G2) BECAUSE, OR SO?

Choose the right word for the gap.

- 1 Il-ġakketta għall-bard. _____ għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita.

- (A) Għax
(B) Għalhekk

Meaning: A jacket is for the cold. That's why you need a raincoat.

2 Fl-uffiċċju, _____ filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx.

☐ A għax

☐ B allura

Meaning: At the office, because in the morning it was sunny.

3 Ċikku ma jridx joħroġ, _____ ġejja x-xita.

☐ A għax

☐ B allura

Meaning: Ċikku doesn't want to go out, because rain is coming.

4 Ġejja x-xita, _____ Ċikku ma jridx joħroġ.

☐ A allura

☐ B għax

Meaning: Rain is coming, so Ċikku doesn't want to go out.

5 _____ jien?

☐ A Għax

☐ B Għaliex

Meaning: Why me?

6 Għandek riħ, _____ għada trid toqgħod fis-sodda.

☐ A allura

☐ B għax

Meaning: You've got a cold, so tomorrow you must stay in bed.

7 Ġorġ ma jistax idoqq, _____ il-ġara l-ġdida trid torqod.

☐ A għax

☐ B allura

Meaning: Ġorġ can't play, because the new neighbour has to sleep.

8 Il-kowt ta' Marija niexef, _____ hu kowt tax-xita.

☐ A għalhekk

☐ B għax

Meaning: Marija's coat is dry, because it's a raincoat.

G3) WHY?

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

Għax Għaliex

_____ int imxarrba?

Meaning: Why are you wet?

Allura Għax

_____ barra hemm maltempata, u l-umbrella fl-uffiċċju.

Meaning: Because there's a storm outside, and the umbrella is at the office.

Għaliex Għalhekk

Il-ġakketta mhix kowt tax-xita. _____ il-ħwejjeg tiegħek
mxarrbin.

Meaning: The jacket isn't a raincoat. That's why your clothes are wet.

għaliex allura

Għandek riħ, _____ issa te u għas-sodda.

Meaning: You've got a cold, so now: tea, and off to bed.

allura għax

Il-kowt ta' Marija niexef, _____ hu kowt tax-xita.

Meaning: Marija's coat is dry, because it's a raincoat.

G4) WHY? BECAUSE...

Match each question to its answer.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ① Għaliex għandi
bżonn kowt tax-
xita? | Ⓐ Għax għandi riħ. |
| ② Għaliex trid
toqgħod fis-sodda? | Ⓑ Għax filgħodu kien hemm ix-
xemx. |
| ③ Għaliex l-umbrella
fl-uffiċċju? | Ⓒ Għax barra hemm maltempata. |
| ④ Għaliex Ċikku ma
jridx joħroġ? | Ⓓ Għax ġejja x-xita. |
| ⑤ Għaliex il-ħwejjeg
tiegħek mxarrbin? | Ⓔ Għax il-ġakketta għall-bard. |

G5) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Put the words in order.

- 1 Marija? Għaliex jien, Sinjura

Meaning: Why me, Mrs Marija?

- 2 sebgħa. issa Għax tan-numru int

Meaning: Because now you're one of number 7.

- 3 Hemm allura ix-xita, nieħu l-umbrella.

Meaning: It's raining, so I'm taking the umbrella.

- 4 kowt għandek bżonn tax-xita. Għalhekk

Meaning: That's why you need a raincoat.

- 5 Għandek allura riġ, għas-sodda!

Meaning: You've got a cold, so off to bed!

- 6 barra għax il-kowt, ir-riġ. hemm ilbes

Meaning: Put the coat on, because it's windy outside.

G6) THE RIGHT WORDS

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 Marija asks where your umbrella is. It's at the office, because it was sunny this morning. You say:

- (A) Fl-uffiċċju, għalhekk filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx.
- (B) Fl-uffiċċju, allura filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx.
- (C) Fl-uffiċċju, għax filgħodu kien hemm ix-xemx.

2 You sneeze. Marija says you've got a cold, so off to bed. Marija says:

- ☐ A Għandek riħ, allura għas-sodda!
- ☐ B Għandek riħ, għax għas-sodda!
- ☐ C Għaliex għandek riħ? Għas-sodda!

3 Marija gives you the key to the roof room. Ask why you. You say:

- ☐ A Għax jien?
- ☐ B Allura jien?
- ☐ C Għaliex jien?

4 Marija explains that a jacket is for the cold, and that's why you need a raincoat. Marija says:

- ☐ A Il-ġakketta għall-bard. Għalhekk għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita.
- ☐ B Il-ġakketta għall-bard. Għax għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita.
- ☐ C Il-ġakketta għax-xita. Għalhekk għandek bżonn kowt tax-xita.