

Module 4 grammar on one page

Module 4: Photos on the wall

11 Exercises · Duration: 35 min.

Photos on the wall

Maltese

Read & listen online



Ommi, ħija: the family

Family words take the ending straight on, with no **tiegħi**: **ommi**, my mother. **bint**, **iben** and **oħt** work like **omm**: **binti**, **ibni**, **oħti**. **ħu**, a brother, has short endings, and my brother is **ħija**. Someone else's: **omm Ella**, Ella's mother.

Person	omm	ħu
jien	ommi	ħija
int	ommok	ħuk
hu	ommu	ħuh
hi	ommha	ħuha
aħna	ommna	ħuna
intom	ommkom	ħukom
huma	ommhom	ħuhom
Meaning	mother	brother

nanna, **nannu**, **familja** and **tarbija** keep the possessive: **in-nanna tiegħi**.

Age: għandi tletin sena

Age is had: **Kemm għandek żmien? Għandi tletin sena.** The year word follows the number.

Number	Year	Example	Meaning
1	sena	It-tarbija għandha sena.	a year · The baby is one.
2	sentejn	Ċikku għandu sentejn.	two years · Ċikku is two.
3 to 10	snin	Ella għandha għaxar snin.	years · Ella is ten.
11 and up	sena	Ġorġ għandu tmienja u għoxrin sena.	years · Ġorġ is twenty-eight.

Months the same way: **xahar, xahrejn, sitt xhur, ħdax-il xahar.**

Adjectives in the plural

For more than one, the adjective is plural, for men, women and things alike. A pair, like **għajnejn**, takes the plural too; **xagħar** is singular.

Masculine	Feminine	Plural	Meaning
tajjeb	tajba	tajbin	good, nice
kbir	kbira	kbar	big
żgħir	żgħira	żgħar	small
ġdid	ġdida	ġodda	new
twil	twila	twal	tall, long
qasir	qasira	qosra	short
iswed	sewda	suwed	black

Masculine	Feminine	Plural	Meaning
aħdar	ħadra	ħodor	green

Il-ġirien tajbin. · Għandu għajnejn ħodor. · Għandha xagħar twil u iswed.

For you, to her: għal and lil

għal is for, **lil** is to, and marks a known person who is known, seen or had: **Naf lil Ġorġ**. Both take the person's ending.

Person	għal	lil	Meaning
jien	għalija	lili	for me · me
int	għalik	lilek	for you · you
hu	għalih	lilu	for him · him
hi	għaliha	lilha	for her · her
aħna	għalina	lilna	for us · us
intom	għalikom	lilkom	for you · you
huma	għalihom	lilhom	for them · them

Kont, kien, kienet: the past of to be

The present has no word for is; the past tense has. Not is **ma ... -x**: **ma kontx, ma kienx, ma kinitx**. Having in the past is **kelli**, and so is age: **kelli għaxar snin**, I was ten.

Person	kien	kelli	Meaning
Singular			
jien	kont	kelli	I was · I had
int	kont	kellek	you were · you had
hu	kien	kellu	he was · he had
hi	kienet	kellha	she was · she had

Person	kien	kelli	Meaning
Plural			
aħna	konna	kellna	we were · we had
intom	kontu	kellkom	you were · you had
huma	kienu	kellhom	they were · they had

GRAMMAR

G1) A BIT OF EVERYTHING

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 _____ tletin sena.

- ☐ A Għandi
- ☐ B Jien
- ☐ C Kelli

Meaning: I'm thirty.

2 Dan _____ Ella.

- ☐ A ħija
- ☐ B hu
- ☐ C ħu

Meaning: This is Ella's brother.

3 Ġorġ għandu xagħar _____.

- ☐ A sewda
- ☐ B iswed
- ☐ C suwed

Meaning: Ġorġ has black hair.

4 Dan _____, Ella!

- ☐ A lilek
- ☐ B għalija
- ☐ C għalik

Meaning: This is for you, Ella!

5 Meta _____ żgħir, kont noqgħod hawn.

- ☐ A kien
- ☐ B konna
- ☐ C kont

Meaning: When I was little, I lived here.

6 Ibni għandu ħamsin _____.

- ☐ A sena
- ☐ B sentejn
- ☐ C snin

Meaning: My son is fifty.

7 Ċikku għandu għajnejn _____.

- ☐ A aħdar
- ☐ B ħodor
- ☐ C ħadra

Meaning: Ċikku has green eyes.

8 Lukas: Meta _____ żgħir, kont noqgħod f'Hamburg.

- ☐ A kont
- ☐ B kienet
- ☐ C kien

Meaning: When I was little, I lived in Hamburg.

9 Lena: Meta _____ żgħira, kont noqgħod f'Hamburg.

- ☐ A kont
- ☐ B kien
- ☐ C kienet

Meaning: When I was little, I lived in Hamburg.

10 Ommi u _____ f'Hamburg.

- ☐ A ħuh
- ☐ B ħuk
- ☐ C ħija

Meaning: My mother and my brother are in Hamburg.

11 U int? Fejn kont meta _____ għaxar snin?

- ☐ A kellek
- ☐ B kelli
- ☐ C kellu

Meaning: And you? Where were you when you were ten?

G2) FIND THE WORDS

Underline the words that say whose, for whom, or who was.

- 1 Żewġi kien żewġ tajjeb ħafna.

Meaning: My husband was a very good husband.

- 2 U din għalik!

Meaning: And this is for you!

- 3 Ella? Ommha bint Marija, u ħuha tarbija.

Meaning: Ella? Her mother is Marija's daughter, and her brother is a baby.

- 4 Jien naf lilek! Kont it-tifel bit-trumbetta!

Meaning: I know you! You were the boy with the trumpet!

- 5 Ġorġ u Ċikku kienu fuq, imma aħna konna
isfel.

Meaning: Ġorġ and Ċikku were upstairs, but we were downstairs.

- 6 Ella, int u ħuk: ommkom binti.

Meaning: Ella, you and your brother: your mother is my daughter.

G3) ENDINGS EVERYWHERE

Underline the words that say whose, for whom, whom, or was and had.

- 1 Ella, taf lili fir-ritratt? Hawn kelli għoxrin sena.

Meaning: Ella, do you recognise me in the photo? I was twenty here.

- 2 Il-kejk għaliġa? Mhux għalina kollha?

Meaning: Is the cake for me? Not for all of us?

- 3 Ir-rigal għalih, u t-te għaliha.

Meaning: The present is for him, and the tea for her.

- 4 Rita? Kulħadd jaf lilha. U kulħadd jaf lilna wkoll.

Meaning: Rita? Everyone knows her. And everyone knows us too.

- 5 Ella, Ġorġ: naf lilkom! Il-kejkijiet għalikom.

Meaning: Ella, Ġorġ: I know you! The cakes are for you.

- 6 Il-ġirien? Naf lilhom, u l-kejk għalihom.

Meaning: The neighbours? I know them, and the cake is for them.

- 7 Binti kellha sitt snin, u aħna kellna dar żgħira.

Meaning: My daughter was six, and we had a small house.

- 8 Intom kellkom qattus, u l-ġenituri tiegħi kellhom kelb.

Meaning: You had a cat, and my parents had a dog.

- 9 Ġorġ, int kellek għaxar snin hawn! U l-qatgħa kienet terribbli!

Meaning: Ġorġ, you were ten here! And the haircut was terrible!

- 10 Il-ġar? Huh f'Hamburg. Il-ġirien? Huhom fil-Belt.

Meaning: The neighbour? His brother is in Hamburg. The neighbours? Their brother is in Valletta.

11 Intom? Hukom hawn? U ommkom?

Meaning: You two? Is your brother here? And your mum?

12 Jien u ħija? Ommna hawn. U ommok, fejn hi?

Meaning: Me and my brother? Our mum is here. And your mum, where is she?

13 Ella u ħuha? Ommhom bint Marija.

Meaning: Ella and her brother? Their mother is Marija's daughter.

14 Ella, Ġorġ: fejn kontu? Il-kejk kien hawn!

Meaning: Ella, Ġorġ: where were you? The cake was here!

15 Ġorġ, fejn hu ħuk?

Meaning: Ġorġ, where's your brother?

G4) WHOSE, AND HOW MANY?

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Ella, _____ binti.

- ☐ A ommok
- ☐ B ommu
- ☐ C ommi

Meaning: Ella, your mum is my daughter.

2 Ella u ħuħa? _____ bint Marija.

- ☐ A Ommkom
- ☐ B Ommna
- ☐ C Ommhom

Meaning: Ella and her brother? Their mother is Marija's daughter.

3 Jien u ħija? _____ bint in-nanna.

- ☐ A Ommkom
- ☐ B Ommhom
- ☐ C Ommna

Meaning: Me and my brother? Our mum is Grandma's daughter.

4 Ćikku, int _____ wkoll!

- ☐ A ħuna
- ☐ B ħukom
- ☐ C ħuhom

Meaning: Ćikku, you're our brother too!

5 Il-ġar? _____ bogħod.

- ☐ A Ħuh
- ☐ B Hu
- ☐ C Ħuha

Meaning: The neighbour? His brother is far away.

6 Ćikku għandu _____?

- ☐ A sena
- ☐ B sentejn
- ☐ C snin

Meaning: Is Ćikku two?

7 Ella għandha għaxar _____.

- ☐ A sena
- ☐ B snin
- ☐ C sentejn

Meaning: Ella is ten.

8 Il-ġirien _____ ħafna.

- ☐ A tajbin
- ☐ B tajba
- ☐ C tajjeb

Meaning: The neighbours are very nice.

9 Kull filgħodu, kejkijiet _____!

- ☐ A ġodda
- ☐ B ġdida
- ☐ C ġdid

Meaning: New cakes every morning!

10 Ella u ħuha _____.

- ☐ A żgħar
- ☐ B żgħira
- ☐ C żgħir

Meaning: Ella and her brother are little.

G5) FOR WHOM, AND WHOM?

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Nanna, il-kejk _____?

- ☐ A għalik
- ☐ B lili
- ☐ C għalija

Meaning: Grandma, is the cake for me?

2 Ġorġ, taf _____ fir-ritratt?

- ☐ A għalija
- ☐ B lilek
- ☐ C lili

Meaning: Ġorġ, do you recognise me in the photo?

3 Ir-rigal _____? Għal Ġorġ?

- ☐ A lilu
- ☐ B għalih
- ☐ C għaliha

Meaning: The present is for him? For Ġorġ?

4 Ir-rigal _____, għal Marija.

- ☐ A lilha
- ☐ B għaliha
- ☐ C għalih

Meaning: The present is for her, for Marija.

5 Marija? Kulhadd jaf _____.

- ☐ A lilha
- ☐ B għaliha
- ☐ C lilu

Meaning: Marija? Everyone knows her.

6 Il-kejk _____, Ċikku! Mhux għalik!

- ☐ A għalikom
- ☐ B għalina
- ☐ C lilna

Meaning: The cake is for us, Ċikku! Not for you!

7 Ella, Ċikku jaf _____.

- ☐ A lilkom
- ☐ B lilna
- ☐ C għalina

Meaning: Ella, Ċikku knows us.

8 Ella, Ġorġ: il-kejk _____!

- ☐ A għalina
- ☐ B lilkom
- ☐ C għalikom

Meaning: Ella, Ġorġ: the cake is for you!

9 Ella, Ġorġ! Naf _____!

- ☐ A lilkom
- ☐ B lilhom
- ☐ C għalikom

Meaning: Ella, Ġorġ! I know you!

10 Il-kejkijiet _____, għall-ġirien.

- ☐ A lilhom
- ☐ B għalih
- ☐ C għalihom

Meaning: The cakes are for them, for the neighbours.

11 Il-ġirien? Naf _____ kollha.

- ☐ A lilhom
- ☐ B lilha
- ☐ C għalihom

Meaning: The neighbours? I know them all.

12 Jien naf _____!

- ☐ A lilek
- ☐ B lilu
- ☐ C għalik

Meaning: I know you!

G6) WHO HAD WHAT?

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Meta _____ għaxar snin, kont noqgħod f'Hamburg.

- ☐ A kelli
- ☐ B kellu
- ☐ C kellek

Meaning: When I was ten, I lived in Hamburg.

2 Ġorġ? Hawn _____ għaxar snin.

- ☐ A kelli
- ☐ B kellu
- ☐ C kellha

Meaning: Ġorġ? He was ten here.

3 Binti? Hawn _____ sitt snin.

- ☐ A kellhom
- ☐ B kellha
- ☐ C kellu

Meaning: My daughter? She was six here.

4 Jien u żewġi _____ dar żgħira.

- ☐ A kellkom
- ☐ B kellna
- ☐ C kellhom

Meaning: My husband and I had a small house.

5 Ella, Ġorġ: fejn _____?

- ☐ A kienu
- ☐ B konna
- ☐ C kontu

Meaning: Ella, Ġorġ: where were you?

6 Intom _____ qattus?

- ☐ A kellna
- ☐ B kellkom
- ☐ C kellhom

Meaning: Did you two have a cat?

7 Il-ġenituri tiegħi _____ dar fir-raħal.

- ☐ A kellna
- ☐ B kellhom
- ☐ C kellha

Meaning: My parents had a house in the village.

8 _____ f'Hamburg.

- ☐ A Ommi
- ☐ B Ommok
- ☐ C Ommu

Meaning: My mother is in Hamburg.

9 Ġorġ, fejn hu _____?

- ☐ A ħija
- ☐ B ħuk
- ☐ C ħuh

Meaning: Ġorġ, where's your brother?

10 Ġorġ? _____ fir-raġal.

- ☐ A Ommok
- ☐ B Ommha
- ☐ C Ommu

Meaning: Ġorġ? His mother is in the village.

11 Ella? _____ Rita.

- ☐ A Ommi
- ☐ B Ommu
- ☐ C Ommha

Meaning: Ella? Her mother is Rita.

12 Ella? _____ għandu sitt xhur.

- ☐ A Ħija
- ☐ B Ħuha
- ☐ C Ħuh

Meaning: Ella? Her brother is six months old.

13 Tfal, fejn hi _____?

- ☐ A ommna
- ☐ B ommkom
- ☐ C ommhom

Meaning: Children, where's your mum?

14 U intom? _____ hawn ukoll?

- ☐ A Ħukom
- ☐ B Ħuhom
- ☐ C Ħuna

Meaning: And you two? Is your brother here too?

15 Il-ġirien? _____ f'Hamburg.

- ☐ A Ғuhom
- ☐ B Ғuna
- ☐ C Ғukom

Meaning: The neighbours? Their brother is in Hamburg.

16 Ċikku għandu għajnejn _____.

- ☐ A kbir
- ☐ B kbira
- ☐ C kbar

Meaning: Ċikku has big eyes.

17 Il-qtates tal-Belt _____.

- ☐ A sewda
- ☐ B iswed
- ☐ C suwed

Meaning: The cats of Valletta are black.

18 It-tfal _____, imma Ġorġ twil.

- ☐ A qosra
- ☐ B qasir
- ☐ C qasira

Meaning: The children are short, but Ġorġ is tall.

G7) QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Pick the answer with the right forms.

1 Min hu dan fir-ritratt?

- ☐ A Żewġi. Kont żewġ tajjeb ħafna.
- ☐ B Żewġi. Kien żewġ tajjeb ħafna.
- ☐ C Żewġi. Kienet żewġ tajjeb ħafna.

Meaning: Who's this in the photo?

2 Kemm għandu żmien hu Ella?

- ☐ A Għandu sitt xhur.
- ☐ B Għandha sitt xhur.
- ☐ C Għandu sitt xahar.

Meaning: How old is Ella's brother?

3 Kif inhuma l-ġirien?

- ☐ (A) Tajbin ħafna, u twal.
- ☐ (B) Tajjeb ħafna, u twil.
- ☐ (C) Tajba ħafna, u twila.

Meaning: What are the neighbours like?

4 Għal min hu r-rigal?

- ☐ (A) Għal Ella. Is-Sibt għeluq sninha.
- ☐ (B) Lil Ella. Is-Sibt għeluq sninha.
- ☐ (C) Għal Ella. Is-Sibt għeluq sninu.

Meaning: Who is the present for?

5 Taf lil Ġorġ?

- ☐ (A) Iva, naf lilu. Hu l-ġar tiegħi.
- ☐ (B) Iva, naf lilha. Hu l-ġar tiegħi.
- ☐ (C) Iva, naf għalih. Hu l-ġar tiegħi.

Meaning: Do you know Ġorġ?

6 Fejn kienu Ġorġ u Ċikku?

- ☐ A Kienu fuq.
- ☐ B Kien fuq.
- ☐ C Konna fuq.

Meaning: Where were Ġorġ and Ċikku?

7 Kif kienet il-qatgħa ta' Ġorġ?

- ☐ A Kien terribbli!
- ☐ B Kienet terribbli!
- ☐ C Kienu terribbli!

Meaning: What was Ġorġ's haircut like?

8 Intom kontu fil-kafetterija s-Sibt?

- ☐ A Le, ma kontux. Kontu hawn.
- ☐ B Le, ma kinux. Kienu hawn.
- ☐ C Le, ma konniex. Konna hawn.

Meaning: Were you two in the café on Saturday?

G8) THE PHOTO WALL

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

kellu żewġi kelli ħija

Dan _____. Hawn _____ għoxrin sena.

Meaning: This is my husband. He was twenty here.

Kont Kien

M'għadux magħna. _____ żewġ tajjeb ħafna.

Meaning: He's no longer with us. He was a very good husband.

ikħal bintek binti kaħlin

U din _____. Għandha għajnejn _____, u xagħar twil.

Meaning: And this is my daughter. She has light-blue eyes, and long hair.

Kellha ommi Kellu ommu Għandu

Lukas: Il-ġar tiegħi. _____ tletin sena. Għandu hu u oħt, u
_____ f'Hamburg.

Meaning: My neighbour. Thirty years old. Has a brother and a sister, and a mum in Hamburg.

Kellha ommi Kellu ommha Għandha

Lena: Il-ġara tiegħi. _____ tletin sena. Għandha hu u oħt, u
_____ f'Hamburg.

Meaning: My neighbour. Thirty years old. Has a brother and a sister, and a mum in Hamburg.

kont għalik kien lilek

Ġorġ, dan _____! Ir-ritratt tiegħek meta _____ żgħir!

Meaning: Ġorġ, this is for you! Your photo from when you were little!

kbir kbar lilu għalih

Ċikku għandu għajnejn _____, u kulhadd jaf _____.

Meaning: Ċikku has big eyes, and everyone knows him.

snin sentejn sena

Ċikku għandu _____, u ibni ħamsin _____.

Meaning: Ċikku is two, and my son is fifty.

qasira żgħar żgħir qosra

It-tfal _____ u _____; Ġorġ twil.

Meaning: The children are little and short; Ġorġ is tall.

ġdid ġodda

Il-kejkijiet _____, kull filgħodu!

Meaning: The cakes are new, every morning!

G9) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Put the words in order.

1 binti. din ibni, u Dan

Meaning: This is my son, and this is my daughter.

2 ħuna Ċikku wkoll!

Meaning: Ċikku is our brother too!

3 snin. għandha għaxar Ella

Meaning: Ella is ten.

4 u kbar. Ċikku ħodor għajnejn għandu

Meaning: Ċikku has big green eyes.

5 u tajbin, ll-ġirien twal.

Meaning: The neighbours are nice, and tall.

6 għalik, Dan Ella!

Meaning: This is for you, Ella!

7 naf lilek! Jien

Meaning: I know you!

8 ħafna. tajjeb żewġ Kien

Meaning: He was a very good husband.

9 kont noqgħod meta hawn żgħir. Kont

Meaning: I lived here when I was little.

10 wkoll snin. hu Hawn, kellu għaxar

Meaning: He was ten here too.

G10) THE RIGHT WORDS

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 Ask Rita how old her son is. You say:

- ☐ A Kemm għandu żmien ibnu?
- ☐ B Kemm għandek żmien ibnek?
- ☐ C Kemm għandu żmien ibnek?

2 You bring Ġorġ a cup of tea. Say it's for him. You say:

- ☐ A Dan għalih, Ġorġ.
- ☐ B Dan lilek, Ġorġ.
- ☐ C Dan għalik, Ġorġ.

3 Tell Anna that Ella has long hair. You say:

- ☐ A Għandha xagħar twila.
- ☐ B Għandha xagħar twal.
- ☐ C Għandha xagħar twil.

4 Lukas: Ten-year-old Ġorġ is in the photo. Tell Ella you were little once, too. You say:

- ☐ A Jien ukoll kont żgħir.
- ☐ B Jien ukoll konna żgħar.
- ☐ C Jien ukoll kien żgħir.

5 Lena: Ten-year-old Ġorġ is in the photo. Tell Ella you were little once, too. You say:

- ☐ A Jien ukoll kienet żgħira.
- ☐ B Jien ukoll kont żgħira.
- ☐ C Jien ukoll konna żgħar.

6 Show Ella a photo of your sister. You say:

- ☐ A Din oħti.
- ☐ B Din oħtha.
- ☐ C Din oħtok.

7 Tell Lina that you and Ġorġ were in the café today. You say:

- ☐ A Illum kienu fil-kafetterija.
- ☐ B Illum kontu fil-kafetterija.
- ☐ C Illum konna fil-kafetterija.

8 Ella looks at the photo of Marija at twenty-two. Ella says:

- ☐ A Nanna, int konna sabiħa ħafna!
- ☐ B Nanna, int kont sabiħa ħafna!
- ☐ C Nanna, int kienet sabiħa ħafna!

9 Tell Anna that Ġorġ has black curls and brown eyes. You say:

- ☐ A Ġorġ għandu kaboċċi suwed u għajnejn kannella.
- ☐ B Ġorġ għandu kaboċċi iswed u għajnejn kannella.
- ☐ C Ġorġ għandu kaboċċi suwed u għajn kannella.

G11) FAMILY CHAINS

Match each chain to the person.

① bint binti

Ⓐ my aunt (Mum's sister)

② bint ħija

Ⓑ my granddaughter

③ omm Ella

Ⓒ my uncle (Mum's brother)

④ omm ommi

Ⓓ my niece (my brother's daughter)

⑤ oħt ommi

Ⓔ my grandmother (Mum's mum)

⑥ ħu ommi

Ⓕ Rita