

SCENE 1 • GRAMMAR

Být a pozdravy

To be and greetings

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

Arrival

Czech

Read & listen online ↗



To be and greetings

In Czech, **být** means "to be". In everyday speech, subject pronouns are often optional: **jsem** can mean "I am" without **já**. In this module, you hear both full forms and shorter natural forms.

Useful greetings are **Dobrý večer!**, **Dobré ráno!**, **Ahoj!** and **Dobrou noc!** Czech has no articles, so **To je dům** means "This is a house / the house" depending on context.

The full present forms are **jsem, jsi, je, jsme, jste, jsou**. With polite **vy**, Czech uses plural verb forms: **Vy jste...** But adjectives and past forms still match one person, so later you will say things like **Vy jste nový** or **Vy jste nová**.

Neighbour words change by gender: **nový soused** for a male learner and **nová sousedka** for a female learner.

A pronoun stands in for a person or thing: **já, ty, on, ona**. Czech often omits it when the verb ending already makes the person clear. Plural means more than one person or thing.

Gender is a noun class: masculine **soused** and **klíč**, feminine **sousedka**, neuter **okno**. Masculine nouns distinguish animate (living beings) and inanimate (things). An adjective describes a noun and matches its gender, number and case. A case is a form showing the noun's role; learn the early short phrases before studying all endings.

An article is a word like English a or the. Czech has no articles; context tells you whether something is a house or the house.

Form	Example	Meaning
jsem	Jsem v Lipově.	I am in Lipov.
jsi	Jsi Eliška?	Are you Eliška?
je	To je můj klíč.	That is my key.
jsme	Jsme doma.	We are at home.
jste	Vy jste nový soused.	You are the new neighbour.
jsou	Oni jsou nahoře.	They are upstairs.

Já jsem nový soused.

I am the new male neighbour.

Já jsem nová sousedka.

I am the new female neighbour.

Vy jste paní Nováková?

Are you Mrs Nováková?

To je můj klíč.

That is my key.

Dobré ráno!

Good morning!

Dobrou noc!

Good night!

Ahoj, já jsem Jan.

Hi, I'm Jan.

My jsme doma.

We are at home.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

- 1 Já jsem nový soused.

Meaning: I am the new male neighbour.

- 2 Já jsem nová sousedka.

Meaning: I am the new female neighbour.

- 3 Vy jste paní Nováková?

Meaning: Are you Mrs Nováková?

- 4 To je můj klíč.

Meaning: That is my key.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Use the English meaning and the pattern in this unit.

1 Já _____ nový soused.

- ☐ A jsem
- ☐ B je
- ☐ C jsi

Meaning: I am the new male neighbour.

2 Já _____ nová sousedka.

- ☐ A jsi
- ☐ B jsem
- ☐ C je

Meaning: I am the new female neighbour.

3 Vy _____ paní Nováková?

- ☐ A jsou
- ☐ B jsi
- ☐ C jste

Meaning: Are you Mrs Nováková?

4 To _____ můj klíč.

- ☐ A jsou
- ☐ B je
- ☐ C jsem

Meaning: That is my key.

5 Dobré _____!

- ☐ A večer
- ☐ B ráno
- ☐ C noc

Meaning: Good morning!

6 Dobrou _____!

- ☐ A večer
- ☐ B ráno
- ☐ C noc

Meaning: Good night!

7 Ahoj, já _____ Jan.

- ☐ A jsi
- ☐ B je
- ☐ C jsem

Meaning: Hi, I'm Jan.

8 My _____ doma.

- ☐ A jsou
- ☐ B jsme
- ☐ C jste

Meaning: We are at home.

G3) COMPLETE THE MESSAGES

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

je jsem

Já _____ nový soused.

Meaning: I am the new male neighbour.

je jsem

Já _____ nová sousedka.

Meaning: I am the new female neighbour.

jsi jste

Vy _____ paní Nováková?

Meaning: Are you Mrs Nováková?

jsem je

To _____ můj klíč.

Meaning: That is my key.

noc ráno

Dobré _____!

Meaning: Good morning!

ráno noc

Dobrou _____!

Meaning: Good night!

jsi jsem

Ahoj, já _____ Jan.

Meaning: Hi, I'm Jan.

jste jsme

My _____ doma.

Meaning: We are at home.

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1 jsem Já nový soused.

Meaning: I am the new male neighbour.

2 nová Já sousedka. jsem

Meaning: I am the new female neighbour.

3 jste Vy Nováková? paní

Meaning: Are you Mrs Nováková?

4 To můj klíč. je

Meaning: That is my key.

5 Ahoj, jsem já Jan.

Meaning: Hi, I'm Jan.

6 My jsme doma.

Meaning: We are at home.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 I am the new male neighbour. You say:

- ☐ A Já jsem nový soused.
- ☐ B Já je nový soused.

2 I am the new female neighbour. You say:

- ☐ A Já je nová sousedka.
- ☐ B Já jsem nová sousedka.

3 Are you Mrs Nováková? You say:

- ☐ A Vy jsi paní Nováková?
- ☐ B Vy jste paní Nováková?

4 That is my key. You say:

- ☐ A To jsem můj klíč.
- ☐ B To je můj klíč.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ① My jsme doma. | ① A Good morning! |
| ② Já jsem nová sousedka. | ② B We are at home. |
| ③ Já jsem nový soused. | ③ C Good night! |
| ④ Vy jste paní Nováková? | ④ D Hi, I'm Jan. |
| ⑤ To je můj klíč. | ⑤ E I am the new female neighbour. |
| ⑥ Dobrou noc! | ⑥ F Are you Mrs Nováková? |
| ⑦ Dobré ráno! | ⑦ G That is my key. |
| ⑧ Ahoj, já jsem Jan. | ⑧ H I am the new male neighbour. |