

Module 2 grammar on one page

Module 2: The empty flat

8 Exercises • Duration: 25 min.

The empty flat

Maltese

Read & listen online ↗



Ġermaniż, Ġermaniża: where you are from

Nationalities and jobs come in pairs, like **ġar** and **ġara**: most add **-a** for a woman, words in **-i** add **-ja**. From is **minn**, and **mill-** before the article: **minn Hamburg**, **mill-Ġermanja**.

Man	Woman	Meaning
Ġermaniż	Ġermaniża	German
Malti	Maltija	Maltese
iġġinier	iġġiniera	engineer
mużiċist	mużiċista	musician

Jien Ġermaniża (Ġermaniż), minn Hamburg.

I'm German, from Hamburg.

Ġorġ Malti, u Ella Maltija.

Ġorġ is Maltese, and so is Ella.

Not with a verb: ma ... -x

A verb takes **ma** in front and **-x** at the end; before a vowel or **għ**, **ma** is **m'**. An **e** in the last syllable turns to **i**. With **xejn**, nothing, the **-x** goes.

Yes	No	Meaning
naf	ma nafx	I know · I don't know
nifhem	ma nifhimx	I understand · I don't understand
għandi	m'għandix	I have · I don't have
għandha	m'għandhiex	she has · she doesn't have
nafu	ma nafux	we know · we don't know

Ma naf xejn. I know nothing. **M'għandi xejn.** I have nothing.

There is, there isn't: hemm, m'hemmx

hemm at the front is there is, there are; **m'hemmx** is there isn't. What isn't there needs no article. **Hemm xi ...?** asks Is there a ...? **M'hemm xejn:** there's nothing.

There is	There isn't	Meaning
Hemm sodda.	M'hemmx sufan.	There's a bed. · There's no sofa.
Hemm xi sigġu?	M'hemm xejn.	Is there a chair? · There's nothing.

M'hemmx mejda, u m'għandix sigġu.

There's no table, and I don't have a chair.

Colours and sizes: aħmar, ħamra

Adjectives follow the noun and take its gender; most add **-a**, but the colours change shape. The colour stays next to the noun, and with the article every adjective takes it: **is-sufan l-isfar il-kbir.**

Masculine	Feminine	Meaning
kbir	kbira	big
żgħir	żgħira	small
aħmar	ħamra	red
isfar	safra	yellow
aħdar	ħadra	green
abjad	bajda	white

Fil-kċina hemm mejda żgħira, bajda.

In the kitchen there's a small, white table.

U l-lampa l-ħamra? Tiegħek ukoll?

And the red lamp? Is it yours too?

Where things are: fuq, taħt, ħdejn

The preposition stands before the noun, which keeps its article. **ġo** joins the article like **fi**.

Preposition	Example	Meaning
fuq	fuq is-sufan	on · on the sofa
taħt	taħt il-mejda	under · under the table
ħdejn	ħdejn it-tieqa	next to · next to the window
quddiem	quddiem il-bieb	in front of · in front of the door
wara	wara l-gwardarobba	behind · behind the wardrobe
ġo	ġol-kamra	inside, in · in the room

Whose? ta', tal-

ta' names the owner after the thing; before the article it is **tal-**, with a sun letter's sound. **Ta' min?** asks whose. With a pronoun it is the ending: **tagħha, tiegħu**.

Owner	With ta'	Meaning
Lina	il-mejda ta' Lina	Lina · Lina's table
il-kafetterija	is-siġġijiet tal- kafetterija	the café · the café's chairs
in-nanna	il-kantina tan- nanna	Grandma · Grandma's cellar

Mela ta' min hi?

Then whose is it?

Iċ-ċavetta l-kbira ta' Marija tiftaħ il-bibien kollha.

Marija's big key opens all the doors.

Plurals: siġġijiet, qtates

Some plurals add an ending, **-i** or **-ijiet**; many more change inside, the broken plural. Learn each noun with its plural. These and those: **dawn, daww**.

Singular	Plural	Meaning
lampa	lampi	lamp
pultruna	pultruni	armchair
siggu	siggijiet	chair
qattus	qtates	cat
mejda	mwejjed	table
ġar	ġirien	neighbour
bieb	bibien	door
ċavetta	ċwieviet	key

The present tense, plural

The plural keeps the person letter and adds **-u** (**-w** after **-a**): **n-...-u** for the 1st person plural (**aħna**, we), **t-...-u** for the 2nd (**intom**, you, several), **j-...-u** for the 3rd (**huma**, they).

hu	aħna	intom	huma	Meaning
jgħin	ngħinu	tgħinu	jgħinu	help
jaf	nafu	tafu	jafu	know
jorqod	norqdu	torqdu	jorqdu	sleep
jistenna	nistennew	tistennew	jistennew	wait

Bonswa! Qed ngħinu biss.

Good evening! We're just helping.

Il-qtates jafu!

Cats know!

GRAMMAR**G1) A BIT OF EVERYTHING**

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Marija _____, minn Ȧal Ġebel.

- ☐ A Malti
- ☐ B Maltija

Meaning: Marija is Maltese, from Ȧal Ġebel.

2 Lena _____, mill-Ġermanja.

- ☐ A Ġermaniż
- ☐ B Ġermaniża

Meaning: Lena is German, from Germany.

3 Lena _____, minn Hamburg.

- ☐ A inġinier
- ☐ B inġiniera

Meaning: Lena is an engineer, from Hamburg.

4 Skużani, ma _____.

- ☐ A nifhemx
- ☐ B nifhimx
- ☐ C nifhem

Meaning: Sorry, I don't understand.

5 Ella _____ kafè.

- ☐ A m'għandhiex
- ☐ B m'għandhax
- ☐ C m'għandux

Meaning: Ella doesn't have coffee.

6 _____ mejda fil-kamra.

- ☐ A M'hemmx
- ☐ B Ma hemm
- ☐ C Mhux

Meaning: There's no table in the room.

7 Xejn! _____ xejn hawn!

- ☐ A M'hemmx
- ☐ B M'hemm

Meaning: Nothing! There's nothing here!

8 Fuq is-sufan hemm lampa _____.

- ☐ A aħmar
- ☐ B ħamra

Meaning: On the sofa there's a red lamp.

9 Ella għandha bagalja _____.

- ☐ A safra
- ☐ B isfar

Meaning: Ella has a yellow suitcase.

10 Il-pultruna mill-kantina _____.

- ☐ A tan-nanna
- ☐ B tal-nanna
- ☐ C ta' nanna

Meaning: The armchair is from Grandma's cellar.

G2) THE RIGHT PERSON

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Bonswa! Qed _____ biss.

- ☐ (A) tgħinu
- ☐ (B) jgħinu
- ☐ (C) ngħinu

Meaning: Good evening! We're just helping.

2 _____? Bil-lejl?

- ☐ (A) Ngħinu
- ☐ (B) Jgħinu
- ☐ (C) Tgħinu

Meaning: You're helping? At night?

3 Aħna ma _____ ta' min hi.

- ☐ (A) nafux
- ☐ (B) nafu
- ☐ (C) jafux

Meaning: We don't know whose it is.

4 Il-ġirien _____ bil-lejl.

- ☐ A jorqdu
- ☐ B torqdu
- ☐ C norqdu

Meaning: The neighbours sleep at night.

5 Intom _____ hawn?

- ☐ A nistennew
- ☐ B tistennew
- ☐ C jistennew

Meaning: Are you two waiting here?

6 Intom _____ issa?

- ☐ A torqdu
- ☐ B jorqdu
- ☐ C norqdu

Meaning: Are you two asleep now?

7 Il-ġirien _____ isfel.

- ☐ A nistennew
- ☐ B jistennew
- ☐ C tistennew

Meaning: The neighbours are waiting downstairs.

8 Huma _____ ukoll.

- ☐ A jgħinu
- ☐ B tgħinu
- ☐ C ngħinu

Meaning: They're helping too.

9 Aħna _____ isfel.

- ☐ A jistennew
- ☐ B tistennew
- ☐ C nistennew

Meaning: We're waiting downstairs.

10 Intom _____ ta' min hi l-pultruna?

- ☐ A tafu
- ☐ B nafu
- ☐ C jafu

Meaning: Do you know whose the armchair is?

G3) FIND THE WORDS

Underline the plural nouns and the plural verbs.

- 1**

Meaning: Cats know!

- 2**

Meaning: There are still tables in the café.

- 3**

Meaning: Marija's key opens all the doors.

- 4 Qed ngħinu biss. Intom torqdu?

Meaning: We're just helping. Are you asleep?

- 5 Fil-kantina hemm pultruni, lampi u siggijiet.

Meaning: In the cellar there are armchairs, lamps and chairs.

- 6 Il- ġirien jistennew isfel, u aħna nistennew fuq.

Meaning: The neighbours are waiting downstairs, and we're waiting upstairs.

G4) THE FLAT AT NUMBER 7

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

Malti mhux Ġermaniż ma

Lukas: Jien _____, u _____ nitkellimx Malti tajjeb.

Meaning: I'm German, and I don't speak Maltese well.

Malti mhux Ġermaniża ma

Lena: Jien _____, u _____ nitkellimx Malti tajjeb.

Meaning: I'm German, and I don't speak Maltese well.

Għandi m'hemmx ġdid hemm M'għandix

Lukas: Jien _____ hawn. _____ siġġu, u _____
mejda.

Meaning: I'm new here. I don't have a chair, and there's no table.

Għandi m'hemmx ġdida hemm M'għandix

Lena: Jien _____ hawn. _____ siġġu, u _____
mejda.

Meaning: I'm new here. I don't have a chair, and there's no table.

ħamra fuq aħmar safra isfar

Fil-kamra tal-banju hemm sufan _____, u _____ is-
sufan hemm lampa _____.

Meaning: In the bathroom there's a yellow sofa, and on the sofa there's a red lamp.

quddiem taħt wara

Ċikku _____ is-sufan, u l-bagalja _____ l-bieb.

Meaning: Ċikku is under the sofa, and the suitcase is behind the door.

ta' tal-kafetterija tal- ta' kafetterija

Il-mejda _____ Lina, u s-siġġijiet _____.

Meaning: The table is Lina's, and the chairs are the café's.

tal-nanna jaf qtates tan-nanna jafu

Il-pultruna mill-kantina _____. Il-_____!

Meaning: The armchair is from Grandma's cellar. Cats know!

nafux ġirien nafu ġar jgħinu

Il-_____, imma ma _____ min.

Meaning: The neighbours help, but we don't know who.

mużiċist mużiċista inġiniera inġinier

Lena _____, u l-ħabiba ta' Ġorġ _____.

Meaning: Lena is an engineer, and Ġorġ's friend (a woman) is a musician.

ħadra safra aħdar isfar

Il-pultruna _____, u l-bagalja ta' Ella _____.

Meaning: The armchair is green, and Ella's suitcase is yellow.

tgħinu ngħinu norqdu jorqdu

Intom _____ bil-lejl, u aħna _____!

Meaning: You help at night, and we're asleep!

G5) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Put the words in order.

- 1 Ġermaniż, Jien mill-Ġermanja.

Meaning: I'm German, from Germany.

2 Jien mill-Ġermanja. Ġermaniża,

Meaning: I'm German, from Germany.

3 Maltija, Ȧal minn Marija Ġebel.

Meaning: Marija is Maltese, from Ȧal Ġebel.

4 ma u nifhimx, ma Skużani, fejn hi. nafx

Meaning: Sorry, I don't understand, and I don't know where it is.

5 mejda, M'hemmx m'għandix u sigġu.

Meaning: There's no table, and I don't have a chair.

6 xejn fil-gwardarobba. M'hemm

Meaning: There's nothing in the wardrobe.

7 Fil-kċina mejda bajda. żgħira, hemm

Meaning: In the kitchen there's a small, white table.

8 ta' Is-sufan l-isfar Ġorġ.

Meaning: The yellow sofa is Ġorġ's.

9 m'għandhiex ma u tafx hi. ċavetta, Ella fejn

Meaning: Ella doesn't have a key, and she doesn't know where it is.

- 10 u Hemm lampi ċwieviet fil-gwardarobba.

Meaning: There are keys and lamps in the wardrobe.

- 11 jorqdu, u ll-ġirien nistennew. aħna

Meaning: The neighbours are asleep, and we're waiting.

G6) THE RIGHT WORDS

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 **Lukas: A neighbour on the stairs asks where you're from. You say:**

- (A) Jien Ġermaniż, mill-Hamburg.
- (B) Jien minn fejn?
- (C) Jien Ġermaniż, minn Hamburg.

- 2 **Lena: A neighbour on the stairs asks where you're from. You say:**

- (A) Jien minn fejn?
- (B) Jien Ġermaniża, minn Hamburg.
- (C) Jien Ġermaniża, mill-Hamburg.

3 Lukas: Ella asks why your flat is so empty. You say:

- ☐ A Jien ġdid hawn. M'għandix xejn.
- ☐ B Jien ġdid hawn. Għandi xejn.
- ☐ C Jien ġdid hawn. M'għandi xejn.

4 Lena: Ella asks why your flat is so empty. You say:

- ☐ A Jien ġdid hawn. Għandi xejn.
- ☐ B Jien ġdida hawn. M'għandi xejn.
- ☐ C Jien ġdida hawn. M'għandix xejn.

5 Marija speaks too fast. Ask her to speak slowly. You say:

- ☐ A Nifhem. Tista' titkellem malajr?
- ☐ B Ma nifhemx. Tista' titkellem bil-mod?
- ☐ C Ma nifhimx. Tista' titkellem bil-mod?

6 Ella can't find Ċikku. He's under the yellow sofa. You say:

- ☐ A Ċikku taħt is-sufan l-safra.
- ☐ B Ċikku taħt sufan l-isfar.
- ☐ C Ċikku taħt is-sufan l-isfar.

7 You find a red lamp in your bathroom. Ask Ġorġ whose it is. You say:

- ☐ A Ta' min hi l-lampa l-ħamra?
- ☐ B Ta' min hu l-lampa l-aħmar?
- ☐ C Min hi l-lampa ħamra?

8 Lina explains that there are still tables in the café. Lina says:

- ☐ A Fil-kafetterija għad m'hemmx mwejjed.
- ☐ B Fil-kafetterija għad hemm mwejjed.
- ☐ C Fil-kafetterija għad hemm mejdi.

9 Marija and Ella say they know nothing about the sofa. Ella says:

- ☐ A Aħna mhux nafu xejn.
- ☐ B Aħna ma nafu xejn.
- ☐ C Aħna ma jafu xejn.

10 Ask Marija and Ella if they know whose the armchair is. You say:

- ☐ A Intom tafu ta' min hi l-pultruna?
- ☐ B Int tafu ta' min hi l-pultruna?
- ☐ C Intom nafu ta' min hi l-pultruna?

11 Marija and Ella are standing on the stairs. Ask them if they're waiting here. You say:

- ☐ A Intom tistenna hawn?
- ☐ B Intom nistennew hawn?
- ☐ C Intom tistennew hawn?

12 Ella asks what the wardrobe is like. It's big and old. You say:

- ☐ A Kbira u qadim.
- ☐ B Kbir u qadim.
- ☐ C Kbira u qadima.

G7) THE RIGHT ANSWER

Choose the right answer.

1 Minn fejn int?

- ☐ A Jien Malti, minn Malta.
- ☐ B Jien Hamburg.
- ☐ C Jien Ġermaniż, minn Hamburg.

Meaning: Where are you from?

2 Minn fejn int?

- ☐ A Jien Maltija, minn Malta.
- ☐ B Jien Ġermaniża, minn Hamburg.
- ☐ C Jien Hamburg.

Meaning: Where are you from?

3 Ella, għandek ċavetta?

- ☐ A Le, m'għandhiex.
- ☐ B Le, m'għandix.
- ☐ C Le, mhux għandi.

Meaning: Ella, do you have a key?

4 Hemm xi sigġu fil-kamra?

- ☐ A Le, m'hemm.
- ☐ B Le, m'hemmx.
- ☐ C Le, mhux hemm.

Meaning: Is there a chair in the room?

5 Kif hi l-lampa ta' Ġorġ?

- ☐ A Żgħira u ħadra.
- ☐ B Żgħir u aħdar.
- ☐ C Żgħira u aħdar.

Meaning: What is Ġorġ's lamp like?

6 Ta' min hi l-mejda l-bajda?

- ☐ A Tal-Lina.
- ☐ B Ta' il-kafetterija.
- ☐ C Tal-kafetterija.

Meaning: Whose is the white table?

7 Intom tgħinu bil-lejl?

- ☐ A Iva, tgħinu.
- ☐ B Iva, ngħinu.
- ☐ C Iva, jgħinu.

Meaning: Do you help at night?

8 X'taħdem il-ħabiba ta' Ġorġ?

- ☐ A Hi mużiċista.
- ☐ B Hu mużiċista.
- ☐ C Hi mużiċist.

Meaning: What does Ġorġ's friend (a woman) do?

9 Kif hi l-gwardarobba?

- ☐ A Kbira u abjad.
- ☐ B Kbir u abjad.
- ☐ C Kbira u bajda.

Meaning: What is the wardrobe like?

10 X'hemm fil-kantina tan-nanna?

- ☐ A Pultruni, lampi u ċwievet.
- ☐ B Xejn: il-kantina vojta.
- ☐ C Is-sufan l-isfar ta' Ġorġ.

Meaning: What is there in Grandma's cellar?

11 X'għad hemm fil-kafetterija?

- (A) Siġġiet u mejdi.
- (B) Siġġijiet u mwejjed.
- (C) Siġġijiet u mejdi.

Meaning: What is there still in the café?

G8) QUESTION AND ANSWER

Match each question to its answer.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| (1) Fejn hu Ċikku? | (A) Hi Maltija. |
| (2) Hemm xi tazza? | (B) Taħt is-sufan. |
| (3) Intom tafu? | (C) Iva, hemm tazzi. |
| (4) X'hemm fil-gwardarobba? | (D) Le, ma nafux. |
| (5) Ta' min hu s-sufan? | (E) Ta' Ġorġ. |
| (6) Minn fejn hi Marija? | (F) Xejn! |