

SCENE 22 • GRAMMAR

It-Tnejn, nhar il-Ħamis

The days, and saying when

7 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

The first week at work

Maltese

Read & listen online



The days of the week take the article, and a capital letter: **it-Tnejn**, Monday. Most of them are old numbers, counted from Sunday: **it-Tnejn** is the second day (**tnejn**, two), **it-Tlieta** the third, **l-Erbgħa** the fourth, **il-Ħamis** the fifth. **Il-Ġimgħa**, Friday, is also the word for a week, and **is-Sibt** is the sabbath.

THE DAYS

Day	Every week	Meaning
it-Tnejn	kull nhar ta' Tnejn	Monday · every Monday
it-Tlieta	kull nhar ta' Tlieta	Tuesday · every Tuesday
l-Erbgħa	kull nhar ta' Erbgħa	Wednesday · every Wednesday
il-Ħamis	kull nhar ta' Ħamis	Thursday · every Thursday
il-Ġimgħa	kull nhar ta' Ġimgħa	Friday · every Friday
is-Sibt	kull nhar ta' Sibt	Saturday · every Saturday
il-Ħadd	kull nhar ta' Ħadd	Sunday · every Sunday

On a day needs no extra word: **il-Ħamis** is Thursday and on Thursday. In full it is **nhar il-Ħamis**, on the day of Thursday. Every Thursday drops the article: **kull nhar ta' Ħamis**. Written small, **ħadd** is nobody, and **ġimgħa** a week.

It-Tnejn blu, it-Tlieta aħdar, l-Erbgħa isfar.

Monday is blue, Tuesday green, Wednesday yellow.

Hemm laqgħa mas-sid, kull nhar ta' Ħamis.

There's a meeting with the boss, every Thursday.

It-Tnejn niekol soppa, it-Tlieta ħut.

On Monday I have soup, on Tuesday fish.

The parts of the day are single words, with their preposition built in: **filgħodu**, in the morning · **wara nofsinhar**, in the afternoon (after noon) · **filgħaxija**, in the evening · **bil-lejl**, at night. **Fil-weekend** is at the weekend. They go after a day: **il-Ġimgħa wara nofsinhar**, on Friday afternoon.

WHEN?

When	Example	Meaning
filgħodu	Lina tiftaħ filgħodu.	in the morning · Lina opens in the morning.
f'nofsinhar	Niekl u f'nofsinhar u nofs.	at noon · We eat at half past twelve.
wara nofsinhar	Il-Ġimgħa wara nofsinhar hemm kontroll.	in the afternoon · On Friday afternoon there's a check.
filgħaxija	Filgħaxija naqra.	in the evening · In the evening I read.
bil-lejl	Ġorġ jaħdem bil-lejl.	at night · Ġorġ works at night.
fil-weekend	Fil-weekend niekol bajd.	at the weekend · At the weekend I have eggs.
illum · għada	Illum il-Ħamis.	today · tomorrow · Today is Thursday.

X'jum hu illum? What day is it today? After a vowel **illum** loses its i: **hu illum**.

TIP

Dan hu l-kontroll tal-qtates. That's the cat check. Between two words with the article, Maltese puts hu (or hi) for is; dan il-kontroll

alone would be just this check.

X'jum hu llum? Illum l-Erbgħa.

What day is it today? Today is Wednesday.

Il-Ġimgħa wara nofsinhar hemm il-kontroll tal-qtates.

On Friday afternoon there's the cat check.

Fil-weekend niekol bajd.

At the weekend I have eggs.

GRAMMAR

G1) FIND THE WORDS

Underline the days, and the words that say when.

- 1 It-Tnejn blu, it-Tlieta aħdar, l-Erbgħa isfar.

Meaning: Monday is blue, Tuesday green, Wednesday yellow.

- 2 Hemm laqgħa mas-sid, kull nhar ta' Ħamis.

Meaning: There's a meeting with the boss, every Thursday.

- 3 Is-Sibt u l-Ħadd?

Meaning: And Saturday and Sunday?

- 4 Fil-weekend niekol bajd.

Meaning: At the weekend I have eggs.

- 5 Il-Ġimgħa hemm il-kontroll tal-qtates.

Meaning: On Friday there's the cat check.

- 6 X'jum hu llum? Il-Ħamis.

Meaning: What day is it today? Thursday.

- 7 Filgħodu immur għand Lina, u filgħaxija niġi għandek, nanna.

Meaning: In the morning I go to Lina's, and in the evening I come to you, Grandma.

G2) WHICH DAY?

Choose the day with the right article.

- 1 It-Tnejn blu, _____ aħdar.

- ☐ A il-Tlieta
- ☐ B Tlieta
- ☐ C it-Tlieta

Meaning: Monday is blue, Tuesday green.

2 _____ isfar, il-Ħamis aħmar.

- ☐ A Il-Erbgħa
- ☐ B Erbgħa
- ☐ C L-Erbgħa

Meaning: Wednesday is yellow, Thursday red.

3 _____ fl-għaxra hemm laqgħa.

- ☐ A Ħamis
- ☐ B Iḥ-Ħamis
- ☐ C Il-Ħamis

Meaning: On Thursday at ten there's a meeting.

4 _____ abjad, mhux aħmar.

- ☐ A Ġimgħa
- ☐ B Il-Ġimgħa
- ☐ C Iġ-Ġimgħa

Meaning: Friday is white, not red.

5 _____ u l-Ħadd? M'hemmx kulur?

- ☐ A Il-Sibt
- ☐ B Sibt
- ☐ C Is-Sibt

Meaning: Saturday and Sunday? Is there no colour?

6 _____ ma naħdimx.

- ☐ A Ħadd
- ☐ B Iḥ-Ħadd
- ☐ C Il-Ħadd

Meaning: On Sunday I don't work.

7 X'jum hu llum? _____.

- ☐ A Fit-Tnejn
- ☐ B Il-Tnejn
- ☐ C It-Tnejn

Meaning: What day is it today? Monday.

G3) ON THURSDAY, EVERY THURSDAY

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Hemm laqgħa mas-sid, kull nhar ta' _____.

- ☐ A Ħamsa
- ☐ B il-Ħamis
- ☐ C Ħamis

Meaning: There's a meeting with the boss, every Thursday.

2 Ella tiġi għandi kull nhar ta' _____.

- ☐ A it-tielet
- ☐ B it-Tlieta
- ☐ C Tlieta

Meaning: Ella comes to me every Tuesday.

3 Il-laqgħa nhar _____.

- ☐ A ta' Ħamis
- ☐ B Ħamis
- ☐ C il-Ħamis

Meaning: The meeting is on Thursday.

4 Jien indoqq _____.

- ☐ (A) fil-weekend
- ☐ (B) mill-weekend
- ☐ (C) bil-weekend

Meaning: I play at the weekend.

5 Jien naħdem _____, u norqod filgħodu.

- ☐ (A) mil-lejl
- ☐ (B) lejl
- ☐ (C) bil-lejl

Meaning: I work at night, and I sleep in the morning.

6 Il-Ġimgħa _____ hemm il-kontroll tal-qtates.

- ☐ (A) wara nofsinhar
- ☐ (B) fin-nofsinhar
- ☐ (C) wara nofsillejl

Meaning: On Friday afternoon there's the cat check.

7 X'jum hu _____?

- ☐ A illum
- ☐ B llum
- ☐ C il-lum

Meaning: What day is it today?

8 Nieklu _____ u nofs.

- ☐ A fin-nofsinhar
- ☐ B nofsinhar
- ☐ C f'nofsinhar

Meaning: We have lunch at half past twelve.

G4) TONIO'S LUNCHES

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

it-Tlieta It-Tnejn Il-Tnejn

_____ Tonio jiekol soppa, _____ ħut.

Meaning: On Monday Tonio has soup, on Tuesday fish.

il-Ħamis Iḥ-Ħamis L-Erbgħa

_____ soppa, _____ ħut, u l-Ġimgħa soppa.

Meaning: On Wednesday soup, on Thursday fish, and on Friday soup.

Kull Fil-weekend

_____ jiekol bajd.

Meaning: At the weekend he has eggs.

dejjem Ħamis il-Ħamis qatt

Il-laqqgħa mas-sid kull nhar ta' _____, _____ bil-kafè.

Meaning: The meeting with the boss is every Thursday, always with coffee.

Il-Ġimgħa Ġimgħa fil- wara

_____ nofsinhar hemm il-kontroll tal-qtates.

Meaning: On Friday afternoon there's the cat check.

G5) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Put the words in order.

1 ħut. soppa, it-Tlieta It-Tnejn

Meaning: On Monday soup, on Tuesday fish.

2 hemm ta' laqgħa. nhar Kull Ħamis

Meaning: Every Thursday there's a meeting.

- 3 nofsinhar tal-qtates. Il-Ġimgħa wara il-kontroll hemm

Meaning: On Friday afternoon there's the cat check.

- 4 naħdimx. Il-Ħadd ma

Meaning: On Sunday I don't work.

- 5 indoqq it-trumbetta. Is-Sibt bil-lejl

Meaning: On Saturday night I play the trumpet.

- 6 l-uffiċċju. filgħodu jiġi Ċikku L-Erbgħa

Meaning: On Wednesday morning Ċikku comes to the office.

7 bajd. Fil-weekend niekol

Meaning: At the weekend I have eggs.

8 hu Il-Ħamis. Illum? X'jum

Meaning: What day is it today? Thursday.

9 kull tiġi nhar Ella għandi Tlieta. ta'

Meaning: Ella comes to me every Tuesday.

G6) THE RIGHT WORDS

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 Ask what day it is today. You say:

- (A) X'ĥin hu Illum?
- (B) Fejn hu Illum?
- (C) X'jum hu Illum?

2 Tonio asks when the meeting is. It's on Thursday at ten. You say:

- ☐ A Il-Ħamis fl-għaxra.
- ☐ B Ħamis fl-għaxra.
- ☐ C Il-Ħamis l-għaxra.

3 Tell Tonio you eat cake only sometimes, not every day. You say:

- ☐ A Mhux kultant. Kull ġurnata biss.
- ☐ B Mhux kull ġurnata. Kultant biss.
- ☐ C Kull ġurnata. Kultant biss.

4 Tonio tells you what he eats at the weekend. Tonio says:

- ☐ A Fil-weekend tiekol bajd.
- ☐ B Fil-weekend jiekol bajd.
- ☐ C Fil-weekend niekol bajd.

5 Ella comes to her grandmother's every Wednesday. Say so. You say:

- ☐ A Ella tiġi kull nhar ta' Erbgħa.
- ☐ B Ella tiġi kull nhar l-Erbgħa.
- ☐ C Ella tiġi kull Erbgħa ta' nhar.

6 Tonio asks if you work on Saturday. You don't. You say:

- ☐ A Le, is-Sibt ma naħdimx.
- ☐ B Le, il-Sibt ma naħdimx.
- ☐ C Le, is-Sibt naħdem.

7 Lina asks when Ġorġ plays. On Saturday and Sunday nights. You say:

- ☐ A Is-Sibt u l-Ħadd bil-lejl.
- ☐ B It-Tnejn u t-Tlieta bil-lejl.
- ☐ C Is-Sibt u l-Ħadd filgħodu.

G7) THE DAYS OF THE WEEK

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| ① it-Tlieta | Ⓐ Saturday |
| ② il-weekend | Ⓑ Tuesday |
| ③ it-Tnejn | Ⓒ Monday |
| ④ il-Ħamis | Ⓓ Friday (and: a week) |
| ⑤ is-Sibt | Ⓔ Sunday |
| ⑥ il-Ġimgħa | Ⓕ the weekend |
| ⑦ l-Erbgħa | Ⓖ Thursday |
| ⑧ il-Ħadd | Ⓗ Wednesday |