

Slovene in everyday situations

Module 2: The empty flat

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The empty flat

Slovenian

Read & listen online



vi, iz Nemčije

Form	Example	Meaning
govorite	Vi govorite slovensko.	You speak Slovene, politely.
govoriš	Ti govoriš nemško.	You speak German, familiarly.
Nemčije	Sem iz Nemčije.	I am from Germany.
Hamburga	Sem iz Hamburga.	I am from Hamburg.
Inženir	Inženir sem.	I am an engineer.
Govorim	Sem nov sosed. Govorim slovensko.	I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

Use polite **vi** with plural verb forms: **ste, govorite, delate**. A child or friend uses familiar **ti: si, govoriš, delaš**. The same person can be addressed differently according to the relationship.

Od kod ste? asks where you are from. Reply with **iz** and the genitive: **iz Nemčije, iz Hamburga**. Name these fixed country and town forms together; do not infer every ending from one example.

For languages say **govorim slovensko, govorim nemško**. A profession is a nominative identity: **inženir sem** or **inženirka sem**. **Kako se napiše?** is a useful spelling formula.

nimam mize, ni ključa

Form	Example	Meaning
mizo	Imam mizo.	I have a table.
mize	Nimam mize.	I do not have a table.
ključa	Nimam ključa.	I do not have a key.
miza	To ni moja miza.	This is not my table.
kavča	Nov sem tukaj. Nimam kavča.	I am new here. I do not have a sofa.
torte	Nisem lačen. Nimam torte.	I am not hungry. I do not have cake.

An affirmative direct object uses the accusative, but standard Slovene uses the genitive after negation: **imam mizo** → **nimam mize**, **imam ključ** → **nimam ključa**. This is a productive rule, not just a new verb ending.

For something absent, use **ni** plus the genitive: **mize ni, ni ključa**. Negating an identity keeps the nominative: **to ni moja miza**. Distinguish no table is here from this is not my table.

Še nimam mize means I do not have a table yet. Common feminine genitive singular ends in **-e**; many masculine nouns use **-a**. Plural genitives vary: learn **stolov**, **otrok** and **vrat** with their words.

rumen, rdeča, majhno

Form	Example	Meaning
rumen	Kavč je rumen.	The sofa is yellow.
rdeča	Svetilka je rdeča.	The lamp is red.
majhno	Okno je majhno.	The window is small.
velika	Omara je velika.	The wardrobe is big.
nov	Sem nov sosed.	I am a new neighbour.
prijazen	Sem prijazen sosed.	I am a friendly neighbour.

The nominative case names a subject or an identity. A describing adjective agrees with its noun. Use masculine **rumen kavč**, feminine **rdeča svetilka** and neuter **majhno okno**. Nouns ending in a consonant are often masculine, **-a** often feminine and **-o/-e** often neuter, but there are exceptions.

The same agreement applies after **biti**: **kavč je rumen, svetilka je rdeča, okno je majhno**. Keep a noun's gender when it refers to a thing; do not choose neuter merely because English calls it it.

Velik and **majhen** have changing stems in feminine/neuter forms: **velika/veliko, majhna/majhno**. Memorize the useful sets rather than mechanically adding an ending to every dictionary form.

en stol, dva stola, trije stoli

Number	Masculine	Feminine	Neuter
One	en stol je	ena skodelica je	eno okno je
Exactly two	dva stola sta	dve skodelici sta	dve okni sta
Three	trije stoli so	tri skodelice so	tri okna so
Five, counting chunk	pet stolov	pet skodelic	pet oken

Slovene distinguishes one, exactly two, and three or more. These are singular, dual and plural. Learn **en stol, dva stola, trije stoli**; feminine **ena skodelica, dve skodelici, tri skodelice**.

Use **dva** for masculine, **dve** for feminine and neuter. Numbers three and four also affect the noun ending: **trije stoli, štirje stoli**. After five or more the noun uses the genitive plural: **pet stolov**. This last pattern is previewed as a counting chunk.

The verb agrees too: **en stol je, dva stola sta, trije stoli so**. The dual is ordinary daily grammar in Slovene; use it whenever exactly two things or people are the subject.

midva, medve, sva, sta

Number	Person	Biti	Example
Exactly two	midva / medve	sva	midva sva lačna / medve sva lačni
Exactly two	vidva / vedve	sta	vidva sta tukaj / vedve sta tukaj
Exactly two	onadva / onidve	sta	onadva sta tukaj / onidve sta tukaj
Three or more	mi / me	smo	mi smo lačni / me smo lačne
Three or more	vi / ve	ste	vi ste tukaj / ve ste tukaj
Three or more	oni / one / ona	so	oni so tukaj / one so tukaj

For two people including the speaker use **midva** (two men or a mixed pair) or **medve** (two women). The verb **biti** is **sva**: **midva sva tukaj, medve sva tukaj**. For two addressees or two other people use **sta**.

With three or more, use **mi smo** (masculine/mixed), **me smo** (feminine), **vi/ve ste**, **oni/one so**. A person pronoun can be omitted when the verb makes the number clear.

Adjectives agree in dual too: **midva sva lačna, medve sva lačni.**

The feminine dual and masculine plural can look the same but the verb distinguishes them. Regular present verbs have **-va** for we two: **veva, živiva.**

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS

Underline the form described in this unit.

- 1 Vi govornite slovensko.

Meaning: You speak Slovene, politely.

- 2 Imam mizo.

Meaning: I have a table.

- 3 Kavč je rumen.

Meaning: The sofa is yellow.

- 4 Tukaj je en stol.

Meaning: There is one chair here.

5 Midva sva tukaj.

Meaning: We two are here, male or mixed pair.

6 Inženir sem.

Meaning: I am an engineer.

7 Inženirka sem.

Meaning: I am an engineer.

8 Sem nov sosed. Govorim slovensko.

Meaning: I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

9 Sem nova sosedka. Govorim slovensko.

Meaning: I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

10 Sem iz Nemčije.

Meaning: I am from Germany.

11 Nimam ključa.

Meaning: I do not have a key.

12 Okno je majhno.

Meaning: The window is small.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Vi _____ slovensko.

- ☐ A govorim
- ☐ B govoriš
- ☐ C govorite

Meaning: You speak Slovene, politely.

2 Imam _____.

- ☐ A miza
- ☐ B mize
- ☐ C mizo

Meaning: I have a table.

3 Kavč je _____.

- ☐ A rumen
- ☐ B rumena
- ☐ C rumeno

Meaning: The sofa is yellow.

4 Tukaj je en _____.

- ☐ A stol
- ☐ B stoli
- ☐ C stola

Meaning: There is one chair here.

5 Midva _____ tukaj.

- ☐ A smo
- ☐ B sva
- ☐ C sta

Meaning: We two are here, male or mixed pair.

6 Lukas: _____ sem.

- ☐ A Inženir
- ☐ B Inženirko
- ☐ C Inženirja

Meaning: I am an engineer.

7 Lena: _____ sem.

- ☐ A Inženirja
- ☐ B Inženirka
- ☐ C Inženirko

Meaning: I am an engineer.

8 Lukas: Sem nov sosed. _____ slovensko.

- ☐ A Govorim
- ☐ B Govoriš
- ☐ C Govorite

Meaning: I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

9 Lena: Sem nova sosedka. _____ slovensko.

- ☐ A Govorite
- ☐ B Govorim
- ☐ C Govoriš

Meaning: I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

10 Sem iz _____.

- ☐ A Nemčija
- ☐ B Nemčije
- ☐ C Nemčijo

Meaning: I am from Germany.

11 Nimam _____.

- ☐ A ključ
- ☐ B ključa
- ☐ C ključ

Meaning: I do not have a key.

12 Okno je _____.

- ☐ A majhna
- ☐ B majhno
- ☐ C majhen

Meaning: The window is small.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

govorim govorite

Vi _____ slovensko.

Meaning: You speak Slovene, politely.

miza mizo

Imam _____.

Meaning: I have a table.

rumena rumen

Kavč je _____.

Meaning: The sofa is yellow.

stola stol

Tukaj je en _____.

Meaning: There is one chair here.

smo sva

Midva _____ tukaj.

Meaning: We two are here, male or mixed pair.

Inženirja Inženir

Lukas: _____ sem.

Meaning: I am an engineer.

Inženirja Inženirka

Lena: _____ sem.

Meaning: I am an engineer.

Govoriš Govorim

Lukas: Sem nov sosed. _____ slovensko.

Meaning: I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

Govoriš Govorim

Lena: Sem nova sosedka. _____ slovensko.

Meaning: I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

Nemčija Nemčije

Sem iz _____.

Meaning: I am from Germany.

ključ ključa

Nimam _____.

Meaning: I do not have a key.

majhen majhno

Okno je _____.

Meaning: The window is small.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

1

Vi

govorite

slovensko.

Meaning: You speak Slovene, politely.

2

rumen.

Kavč

je

Meaning: The sofa is yellow.

3 je Tukaj en stol.

Meaning: There is one chair here.

4 tukaj. Midva sva

Meaning: We two are here, male or mixed pair.

5 Govorim sosed. slovensko. nov Sem

Meaning: I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

6 sosed. Sem Govorim nova slovensko.

Meaning: I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene.

7 iz Sem Nemčije.

Meaning: I am from Germany.

8 majhno. Okno je

Meaning: The window is small.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 You speak Slovene, politely. You say:

- ☐ A Vi govorim slovensko.
- ☐ B Vi govorite slovensko.

2 I have a table. You say:

- ☐ A Imam miza.
- ☐ B Imam mizo.

3 The sofa is yellow. You say:

- ☐ A Kavč je rumen.
- ☐ B Kavč je rumena.

4 There is one chair here. You say:

- ☐ A Tukaj je en stol.
- ☐ B Tukaj je en stola.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ① Vi govorite slovensko. | ① A I am an engineer. |
| ② Inženirka sem. | ② B I have a table. |
| ③ Imam mizo. | ③ C You speak Slovene, politely. |
| ④ Midva sva tukaj. | ④ D The sofa is yellow. |
| ⑤ Tukaj je en stol. | ⑤ E I am from Germany. |
| ⑥ Sem nova soseda.
Govorim slovensko. | ⑥ F We two are here, male or mixed pair. |
| ⑦ Sem iz Nemčije. | ⑦ G I am the new neighbour. I speak Slovene. |
| ⑧ Kavč je rumen. | ⑧ H There is one chair here. |