

Croatian in everyday situations

Module 9: The festival

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

The festival

Croatian

Read & listen online



Svirat ću, doći ću, neće

The future uses shortened present forms of want plus an infinitive: **ću, ćeš, će, ćemo, ćete, će**. If the auxiliary follows a verb in **-ti**, drop final **i**: **svirat ću, pisat ću**. With **-ći**, keep it: **doći ću, naći ću**.

If the auxiliary comes earlier, keep the full infinitive: **Ja ću svirati**. Future negatives are **neću, nećeš, neće, nećemo, nećete, neće**. Future forms do not change with the learner's sex.

A present with a future time is also natural: **Koncert počinje u osam. Za deset minuta** means in ten minutes, **prije deset minuta** ten minutes ago. Use the form that expresses the actual plan without adding a complex hypothetical pattern.

Pattern	Example	Meaning
ću	Ja ću svirati.	I will play.
ćeš	Ti ćeš pjevati.	You will sing. (familiar)
ćemo	Mi ćemo doći.	We will come.
Svirat	Svirat ću večeras.	I will play tonight.

The Croatian future tense here is future I. It uses short forms of want with an infinitive: **ću svirati, svirat ću**.

Vidio/vidjela sam, nisam našao

Reuse the perfect: present **biti** auxiliary plus a participle. **Vidio sam • vidjela sam, čuo sam • čula sam, našao sam • našla sam** are real irregular pairs. Learn them as complete verbs rather than replacing every infinitive suffix the same way.

The participle agrees with the subject's gender/number. The auxiliary normally follows the first phrase: **Jučer sam vidio • vidjela,** but **Vidio • Vidjela sam jučer.** Short object pronouns enter the same early clitic group: **Nisam ga vidio • vidjela.**

Past negation uses **nisam • nisi • nije • nismo • niste • nisu.** For ordinary did not, do not substitute a future negative **neću.** **Svjetla su se ugasila** is a reflexive event phrase with plural neuter agreement.

Pattern	Example	Meaning
Vidio	Vidio sam sjenu.	I saw a shadow.
Čuo	Čuo sam trubu.	I heard the trumpet.
našao	Nisam našao Mikija.	I did not find Miki.
sam	Jučer sam bio tamo.	I was there yesterday.

Prvo, zatim, pao, plesao

Prvo, zatim, onda, poslije order events. A past time or the report context lets you reuse the perfect without repeating yesterday in every sentence.

Useful irregulars are **pasti → pao • pala, otići → otišao • otišla, doći → došao • došla.** Regular **plesati → plesao • plesala** follows the same auxiliary-and-agreement pattern. Polite **Vi ste plesali** keeps masculine plural agreement for either learner sex.

A report can use 24-hour times, **dvadeset i četrnaest**. **Ništa nisam vidio • vidjela** is standard negative agreement. Do not remove the negative auxiliary just because the sentence already has nothing.

Pattern	Example	Meaning
Prvo	Prvo je počeo koncert.	First the concert started.
pao	Zatim je bubanj pao.	Then the drum fell.
Otišao	Otišao sam kući.	I went home.
Došao	Došao sam u osam.	I came at eight.

Sjedila, spavala, zatvorila

For a past state or ongoing activity, the same perfect works with an appropriate verb: **sjedila je, spavala je, svirala je**. Croatian has no compulsory additional ongoing-action auxiliary here.

Kad plus the clause links background or sequence: **Kad je počeo koncert, sjedila sam na klupi**. The actual event order and verb choice supply the meaning. Do not introduce aorist or imperfect forms for this A1 story.

For denial, **nisam spavala** or **nije istina**. **Samo sam zatvorila oči** explains what happened instead. A known female character uses feminine participles; a learner sentence needs m/f variants.

Pattern	Example	Meaning
sjedila	Mira je sjedila na klupi.	Mira sat on the bench.
spavala	Mira je spavala.	Mira was sleeping.
svirao	Luka je svirao.	Luka was playing.
Nisam	Nisam spavao.	I did not sleep.

Ukrao je, šaljem, draga Anna

Look back through the photos with clear pronouns and possessives: **njegov usnik, u njegovim ustima, moj kolega**. Refer to a specific person before using his/her so that a question remains unambiguous.

Useful past pairs include **ukrao • ukrala, radio • radila, kupio • kupila**. A plural participant group uses **svi smo gledali**. The learner's job and nationality nouns still need real m/f forms where mentioned.

A friendly postcard can open **Draga Anna!** and close **Pozdrav**. Retell with a short past sequence, then use **sutra ću** for a plan. **Marka** here is a postage stamp; **kartica** a bank card.

Pattern	Example	Meaning
ukrao	Miki je ukrao usnik.	Miki stole the mouthpiece.
Radio	Radio sam na štandu.	I worked at the stall.
Kupio	Kupio sam marku.	I bought a stamp.
ustima	Usnik je u njegovim ustima.	The mouthpiece is in his mouth.

GRAMMAR**G1) NOTICE THE USEFUL PATTERN**

Underline the form practised in this unit.

- 1 Bio sam tamo prije deset minuta.

Meaning: I was there ten minutes ago.

- 2 Bila sam tamo prije deset minuta.

Meaning: I was there ten minutes ago.

- 3 Vidio sam sjenu.

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

- 4 Vidjela sam sjenu.

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

- 5 Ja ću svirati.

Meaning: I will play.

- 6 Vidio sam sjenu.

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

- 7 Vidjela sam sjenu.

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Use the English meaning and the pattern in this unit.

- 1 Lukas: Bio sam tamo _____ deset minuta.

- ☐ A poslije
- ☐ B prije
- ☐ C za

Meaning: I was there ten minutes ago.

- 2 Lena: Bila sam tamo _____ deset minuta.

- ☐ A prije
- ☐ B za
- ☐ C poslije

Meaning: I was there ten minutes ago.

3 Lukas: _____ sam sjenu.

- ☐ A Vidio
- ☐ B Vidjelo
- ☐ C Vidjeli

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

4 Lena: _____ sam sjenu.

- ☐ A Vidjelo
- ☐ B Vidjeli
- ☐ C Vidjela

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

5 Ja _____ svirati.

- ☐ A ćeš
- ☐ B ću
- ☐ C će

Meaning: I will play.

6 Lukas: _____ sam sjenu.

- ☐ A Vidjelo
- ☐ B Vidjeli
- ☐ C Vidio

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

7 Lena: _____ sam sjenu.

- ☐ A Vidjelo
- ☐ B Vidjeli
- ☐ C Vidjela

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

8 _____ je počeo koncert.

- ☐ A Poslije
- ☐ B Sutra
- ☐ C Prvo

Meaning: First the concert started.

9 Mira je _____ na klupi.

- ☐ A sjedila
- ☐ B sjedilo
- ☐ C sjedio

Meaning: Mira sat on the bench.

10 Miki je _____ usnik.

- ☐ A ukrala
- ☐ B ukrao
- ☐ C ukralo

Meaning: Miki stole the mouthpiece.

11 Ti _____ pjevati.

- ☐ A ćemo
- ☐ B ćeš
- ☐ C ću

Meaning: You will sing. (familiar)

G3) COMPLETE THE MESSAGES

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

ćeš ću

Ja _____ svirati.

Meaning: I will play.

Vidjelo Vidio

Lukas: _____ sam sjenu.

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

Vidjelo Vidjela

Lena: _____ sam sjenu.

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

Poslije Prvo

_____ je počeo koncert.

Meaning: First the concert started.

sjedio sjedila

Mira je _____ na klupi.

Meaning: Mira sat on the bench.

ukrala ukrao

Miki je _____ usnik.

Meaning: Miki stole the mouthpiece.

ću ćeš

Ti _____ pjevati.

Meaning: You will sing. (familiar)

G4) BUILD A SENTENCE

Put the words in order.

1

prije

minuta.

sam

tamo

Bio

deset

Meaning: I was there ten minutes ago.

2

tamo

prije

sam

deset

minuta.

Bila

Meaning: I was there ten minutes ago.

3 sam sjenu. Vidio

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

4 Vidjela sam sjenu.

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

5 Ja svirati. ću

Meaning: I will play.

6 sjenu. sam Vidio

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

7 Vidjela sam sjenu.

Meaning: I saw a shadow.

8 Prvo koncert. je počeo

Meaning: First the concert started.

9 na Mira sjedila klupi. je

Meaning: Mira sat on the bench.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 **Lukas: I was there ten minutes ago. You say:**

- ☐ A Bio sam tamo za deset minuta.
- ☐ B Bio sam tamo prije deset minuta.

2 Lena: I was there ten minutes ago. You say:

- ☐ A Bila sam tamo za deset minuta.
- ☐ B Bila sam tamo prije deset minuta.

3 Lukas: I saw a shadow. You say:

- ☐ A Vidjelo sam sjenu.
- ☐ B Vidio sam sjenu.

4 Lena: I saw a shadow. You say:

- ☐ A Vidjelo sam sjenu.
- ☐ B Vidjela sam sjenu.

5 I will play. You say:

- ☐ A Ja ćeš svirati.
- ☐ B Ja ću svirati.

6 Lukas: I saw a shadow. You say:

- ☐ A Vidjelo sam sjenu.
- ☐ B Vidio sam sjenu.

7 Lena: I saw a shadow. You say:

- ☐ A Vidjela sam sjenu.
- ☐ B Vidjelo sam sjenu.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ① Mira je sjedila na klupi. | ① I saw a shadow. |
| ② Ja ću svirati. | ② Mira sat on the bench. |
| ③ Bila sam tamo prije deset minuta. | ③ I saw a shadow. |
| ④ Ti ćeš pjevati. | ④ I was there ten minutes ago. |
| ⑤ Vidjela sam sjenu. | ⑤ You will sing. (familiar) |
| ⑥ Vidjela sam sjenu. | ⑥ Miki stole the mouthpiece. |
| ⑦ Prvo je počeo koncert. | ⑦ I will play. |
| ⑧ Miki je ukrao usnik. | ⑧ First the concert started. |