

SCENE 45 • NUMBER 7

Ir-ritratti

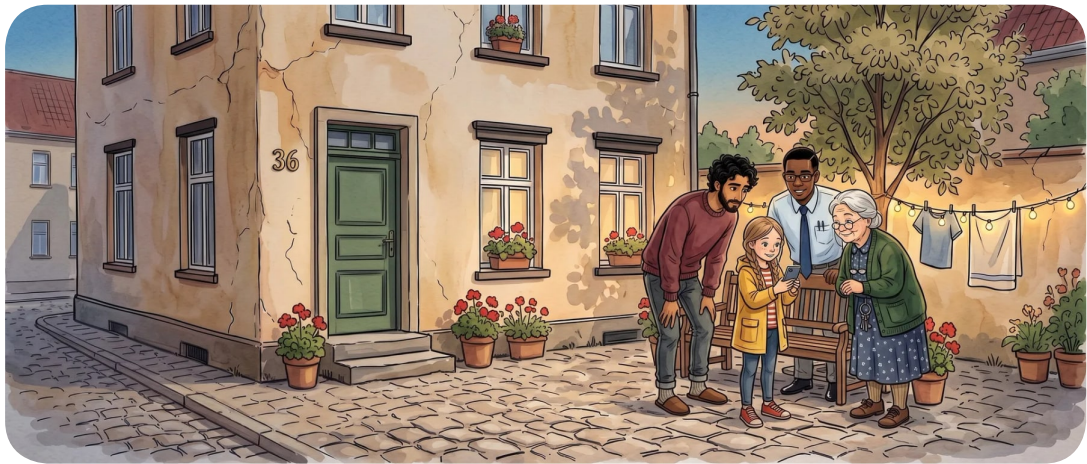
Later that evening, everyone crowds round the phone in the courtyard. Photo after photo: the band, the crowd, Tonio dancing.

154 Words · 5 Exercises · Duration: 15 min.

The festival

Maltese

Read & listen online



LEARNING GOAL

I can describe photos of an event and write a postcard about it.

Ella = ■ Lina = ○ Ġorġ = ▲ Lena (Lukas) = ● Tonio = □
Marija = Δ

Learning as Lukas? Use the words in brackets.

Monday evening in the courtyard. Everyone crowds round the phone.

■ Kulhadd hawn? Tajjeb. L-ewwel ritratt!

○ Ara, il-banda. U Ġorġ bit-trumbetta ż-żgħira.

▲ U hemm, fuq it-tanbur... Min hu dak?

● Ċikku! Fuq it-tanbur!

Tonio looks worried.

□ U jien? Jien hemm ukoll?

■ Ir-ritratt li jmiss. It-tmienja u għaxra. Ċikku ħdejn riġlejn Ġorġ.

△ Mhux possibbli. Ċikku kien id-dar.

Next photo, 8:14 pm: Ċikku is sitting on the big light switch at the side of the stage.

■ Nanna, ara.

□ It-tmienja u erbatax! Poġġa fuq is-swiċċ!

● Mela Ċikku tefa d-dawl!

A flash photo from the blackout. Behind Ċikku, the big drum lies on its side.

■ U dan ir-ritratt Mama ħaditu fid-dlam.

▲ Il-bokkin tiegħi! Bejn snien!

□ U t-tanbur! Mela dak waqa'!

● Allura: l-ewwel seraq il-bokkin, imbagħad tefa d-dawl, u fl-aħħar waqa' t-tanbur!

○ U hawn... Tonio. Bil-qagħqa tal-għasel tiegħi!

□ Kont bil-ġuħ. U żfint ftit biss.

△ Jien rajtu meta kien qed jiżfen. Żifen sabiħ ħafna.

Ċikku yawns.

■ Nanna! Int kont qed torqod!

She gives you a print: you at the café stall in the old raincoat, with Ċikku on the counter.

■ U dan għalik. L-aqwa ritratt.

● Jien, il-bankarell tal-kafetterija u Ċikku. Grazzi, Ella!

● Se nikteb lil ħabibti Anna dwar il-festa.

That night you write a postcard.

● Għażiża Anna! Is-Sibt kellna l-festa tar-raġal.

● L-ewwel il-qattus seraq bokkin. Imbagħad id-dawl intefa, u l-kollega tiegħi żifen.

● Jien ħdimt fil-bankarell tal-kafetterija. Kien ħelu ħafna.

● Għada se nixtri bolla. Ċaw! Lena (Lukas)

L-għada filgħodu tixtri bolla fil-posta u tibgħat il-kartolina lil Anna. Ċikku qiegħed bilqiegħda fuq it-taraġ tal-posta, jistennik.

Vocabulary

DOING THINGS • AZZJONIJIET

jitfi

turn off

Itfi d-dawl: turn off the light. Not tefa' (he threw), which has an apostrophe.

jisraq

steal

A thief: ħalliel.

THE BODY • IL-ĠISEM

sinna

tooth

Several: snien. Snieni: my teeth.

GREETINGS AND COURTESY • TISLIJIET U KORTESIJA

għażiż

dear (in a letter)

At the top of a letter: Għażiża Anna, Għażiż Ġorġ; to several: Għeżiež ġirien.

AT HOME • FID-DAR

swiċċ

light switch

LIFE AND WORK • IL-ĦAJJA U X-XOGĦOL

banda

band

Every village has its band, and the festa is theirs. Several: baned.

WHAT THINGS AND PEOPLE ARE LIKE • KIF INHU? KIF INHI?

ħelu

nice

ħelu (m) · ħelwa (f) · ħelwin (pl): nice, sweet, cute. Of food it means sweet; sweeter: eħla.

EVERYDAY THINGS • AFFARIJIET TA' KULJUM

bolla

stamp

Several stamps: bolol.

LISTENING & UNDERSTANDING**L1) WHO SAYS IT**

Read the dialogue again. Who says these words? Tick the right person.

1 Kont bil-ġuħ. U żfint ftit biss.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ☐ A Lena | ☐ B Ġorġ |
| ☐ C Ella | ☐ D Tonio |

L2) WHAT DOES IT MEAN

Tick the right English meaning.

1 Mela Ċikku tefa d-dawl!

- ☐ A So Ċikku turned off the lights!
- ☐ B Grandma, look.
- ☐ C And me? Am I in them too?

L3) HOW DO YOU SAY IT

Tick the right Maltese sentence.

1 Look, the band. And Ġorġ with the little trumpet.

- ☐ A Il-bokkin tiegħi! Bejn snienu!
- ☐ B Ara, il-banda. U Ġorġ bit-trumbetta ż-żgħira.
- ☐ C Jien rajtu meta kien qed jiżfen. Żifen sabiħ ħafna.

L4) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Write the words in the right order on the line.

- 1

L5) WHAT HAPPENS FIRST

Number the lines in the order they come in the scene.

- ☐ U t-tanbur! Mela dak waqa'!
- ☐ Għażiża Anna! Is-Sibt kellna l-festa tar-raħal.
- ☐ It-tmienja u erbatax! Poġġa fuq is-swiċċ!
- ☐ U hemm, fuq it-tanbur... Min hu dak?
- ☐ Nanna! Int kont qed torqod!

SCENE 45 • WORDS

Ir-ritratti

The photos

4 Exercises • Duration: 10 min.

The festival

Maltese

Read & listen online



banda
band



swiċċ
light switch



jitfi
turn off



sinna
tooth



ħelu
nice



għażiż
dear (in a letter)



jisraq
steal



bolla
stamp

Words

banda

band

Ara, il-banda. U Ġorġ bit-trumbetta ż-żgħira.

swiċċ

light switch

It-tmienja u erbatax! Poġġa fuq is-swiċċ!

jitfi

turn off

Mela Ċikku tefa d-dawl!

sinna

tooth

Il-bokkin tiegħi! Bejn snien!

ħelu

nice

Jien ħdimt fil-bankarell tal-kafetterija. Kien ħelu ħafna.

għażiż

dear (in a letter)

Għażiża Anna! Is-Sibt kellna l-festa tar-raħal.

jisraq

steal

Allura: l-ewwel seraq il-bokkin, imbagħad tefa d-dawl, u fl-aħħar waqa' t-tanbur!

bolla

stamp

Għada se nixtri bolla. Ċaw! Lena

VOCABULARY & COMMUNICATION

W1) WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

What does it mean?

1 swiċċ

- ☐ A month
- ☐ B fifty
- ☐ C light switch

2 sinna

- ☐ A tooth
- ☐ B office
- ☐ C desk

3 helu

- ☐ A nice
- ☐ B only
- ☐ C people

4 banda

- ☐ A too (too big)
- ☐ B band
- ☐ C question

5 jitfi

- ☐ A play (an instrument)
- ☐ B turn off
- ☐ C second (ordinal)

6 jisraq

- ☐ A steal
- ☐ B need
- ☐ C ferry

W2) THE PHOTOS

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

swiċċ banda

Ara, il-_____. U Ġorġ bit-trumbetta ż-żgħira.

Meaning: Look, the band. And Ġorġ with the little trumpet.

banda swiċċ

Poġġa fuq is-_____!

Meaning: He sat down on the switch!

intefa tefa

Mela Ċikku _____ d-dawl!

Meaning: So Ċikku turned off the lights!

sinna snienu

Il-bokkin tiegħi! Bejn _____!

Meaning: My mouthpiece! Between his teeth!

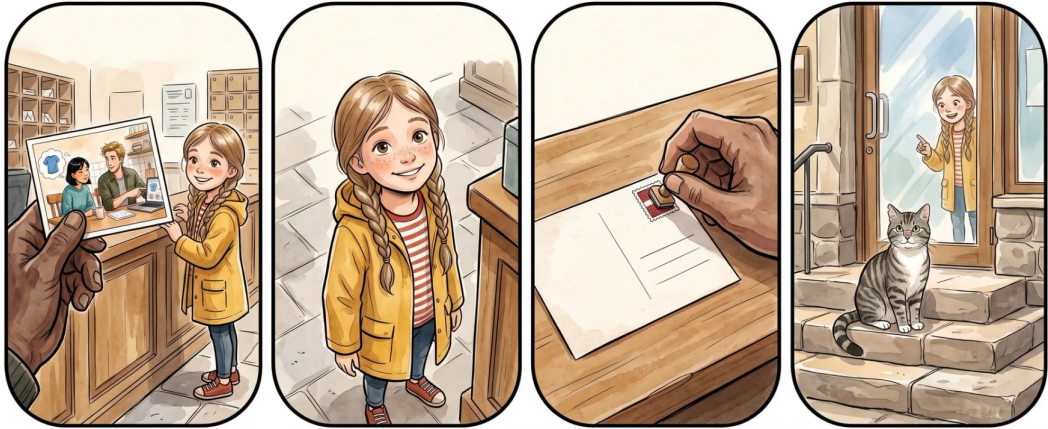
biċċa bolla

Għada se nixtri _____.

Meaning: Tomorrow I'll buy a stamp.

W3) THE STAMP

Fill the speech bubbles.



swiċċ Bolla snien u ħelwa Ċikku ritratt

Lena: Bonġu! _____ waħda, jekk jogħġbok.

Ella: Għal min hu r-_____?

Lena: Għal ħabibti Anna. Hi _____ ħafna.

Ella: U fejn hi l-bolla? _____!

Meaning: 1. Good morning! One stamp, please.

2. Who's the photo for?

3. For my friend Anna. She's really nice.

4. And where's the stamp? Ċikku!

W4) AFTER THE FESTA

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| ① swiċċ | Ⓐ a tooth |
| ② tefa d-dawl | Ⓑ dear (in a letter) |
| ③ seraq | Ⓒ he stole |
| ④ ħelu · ħelwa | Ⓓ nice, sweet |
| ⑤ sinna | Ⓔ a switch |
| ⑥ banda | Ⓕ a stamp |
| ⑦ bolla | Ⓖ a band |
| ⑧ għażiż · għażiża | Ⓗ he turned off the light |

L-ewwel, imbagħad, fl-aħħar

Telling what happened

6 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The festival

Maltese

Read & listen online



A story puts the past in order, and these words do it: **l-ewwel**, first • **imbagħad**, then • **wara**, after that • **fl-aħħar**, in the end. After a vowel **imbagħad** drops its i: **u mbagħad**. **Allura: l-ewwel seraq il-bokkin, imbagħad tefa d-dawl, u fl-aħħar waqa' t-tanbur!**

PUTTING IT IN ORDER

Word	Example	Meaning
l-ewwel	L-ewwel seraq il-bokkin.	first First he stole the mouthpiece.
imbagħad u mbagħad	Imbagħad tefa d-dawl.	then Then he turned off the light.
wara	Wara, il-banda daqqet.	after that After that, the band played.
fl-aħħar	Fl-aħħar waqa' t-tanbur.	in the end In the end the drum fell.
meta	Meta d-dawl intefa, fittixt lil Ċikku.	when When the lights went out, I looked for Ċikku.

wara before a noun is after: **wara l-kunċert**, after the concert. **meta** with the past is one moment: **meta beda l-kunċert**, when the concert started.

Two kinds of past go into a story. What happened, one thing after another, is the past tense: **Ċikku tefa d-dawl**. What was going on at the time is **kien qed** and the present: **Kont qed nisma' lil Ġorġ meta d-dawl intefa**. I was listening to Ġorġ when the lights went out. **kien** takes the person of the past, the verb after **qed** the person of the present.

WHAT WAS GOING ON: KIEN QED

Person	kien qed and the present	Meaning
Singular		
jien	kont qed nizfen	I was dancing
int	kont qed tizfen	you were dancing
hu	kien qed jizfen	he was dancing
hi	kienet qed tizfen	she was dancing
Plural		
aħna	konna qed nizfnu	we were dancing
intom	kontu qed tizfnu	you were dancing
huma	kienu qed jizfnu	they were dancing

kien qed jizfen, he was dancing, but **żifen**, he danced. Marija uses both: **Jien rajtu meta kien qed jizfen. Żifen sabiħ ħafna**.

kien also says what it was like: **Kien mudlam**. It was dark. **Kien ħelu ħafna**. It was really nice. For a feminine word it is **kienet**: **Il-festa kienet sabiħa**. The festa was lovely.

TIP

A postcard starts with **Għażiż** to a man and **Għażiża** to a woman, and it often ends with the future: **Għada se nixtri bolla**. Tomorrow I'll buy a stamp. Then **Ĉaw!** and your name.

Allura: l-ewwel seraq il-bokkin, imbagħad tefa d-dawl, u fl-aħħar waqa' t-tanbur!

So: first he stole the mouthpiece, then he turned off the lights, and in the end the drum fell!

Jien rajtu meta kien qed jiżfen. Żifen sabiħ ħafna.

I saw him when he was dancing. He danced really nicely.

Nanna! Int kont qed torqod!

Grandma! You were asleep!

L-ewwel il-qattus seraq bokkin. Imbagħad id-dawl intefa, u l-kollega tiegħi żifen.

First the cat stole a mouthpiece. Then the lights went out, and my colleague danced.

GRAMMAR

G1) FIND THE WORDS

Underline the words that put the story in order: first, then, after that, in the end, when.

- 1
- | | | | | | | |
|----------|-------|------------|----------|------|---------|---|
| L-ewwel | seraq | il-bokkin, | imbagħad | tefa | d-dawl, | u |
| fl-aħħar | waqa' | t-tanbur! | | | | |

Meaning: First he stole the mouthpiece, then he turned off the light, and in the end the drum fell!

- 2 Meta d-dawl intefa, fittixt lil Ċikku.

Meaning: When the lights went out, I looked for Ċikku.

- 3 L-ewwel beda l-kunċert. Wara, intefa d-dawl.

Meaning: First the concert started. After that, the lights went out.

- 4 Jien rajtu meta kien qed jiżfen.

Meaning: I saw him when he was dancing.

- 5 L-ewwel il-qattus seraq bokkin. Imbagħad id-dawl intefa.

Meaning: First the cat stole a mouthpiece. Then the lights went out.

- 6 U fl-aħħar id-dawl reġa' nxtegħel.

Meaning: And in the end the lights came back on.

G2) WHAT WAS GOING ON: KIEN QED

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Jien kont qed _____ ftit biss.

- ☐ (A) niżfen
- ☐ (B) tiżfen
- ☐ (C) jiżfen

Meaning: I was only dancing a little.

2 Tonio, int kont qed _____ ma' Ella.

- ☐ (A) jiżfen
- ☐ (B) tiżfen
- ☐ (C) niżfen

Meaning: Tonio, you were dancing with Ella.

3 Jien rajtu meta kien qed _____.

- ☐ (A) jiżfen
- ☐ (B) niżfen
- ☐ (C) tiżfen

Meaning: I saw him when he was dancing.

4 Ella _____ qed tkanta mat-tfal.

- ☐ A kienu
- ☐ B kienet
- ☐ C kien

Meaning: Ella was singing with the children.

5 Aħna _____ qed niżfnu quddiem il-palk.

- ☐ A konna
- ☐ B kienu
- ☐ C kontu

Meaning: We were dancing in front of the stage.

6 Aħna konna qed _____ meta d-dawl intefa.

- ☐ A niżfnu
- ☐ B tiżfnu
- ☐ C jiżfnu

Meaning: We were dancing when the lights went out.

7 Intom _____ qed tiżfnu wkoll?

- ☐ A kontu
- ☐ B konna
- ☐ C kienu

Meaning: Were you dancing too?

8 Lina, Tonio: intom kontu qed _____!

- ☐ A jiżfnu
- ☐ B niżfnu
- ☐ C tiżfnu

Meaning: Lina, Tonio: you were dancing!

9 In-nies _____ qed jiżfnu, u jien ħdimt.

- ☐ A kienet
- ☐ B kienu
- ☐ C konna

Meaning: People were dancing, and I worked.

10 In-nies kienu qed _____ fid-dlam.

- ☐ A jiżfnu
- ☐ B tiżfnu
- ☐ C niżfnu

Meaning: People were dancing in the dark.

G3) WHAT HAPPENED, OR WHAT WAS GOING ON?

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Jien _____ qed nisma' lil Ġorġ meta d-dawl intefa.

- ☐ A kien
- ☐ B se nkun
- ☐ C kont

Meaning: I was listening to Ġorġ when the lights went out.

2 L-ewwel Ċikku _____ il-bokkin.

- ☐ A qed jisraq
- ☐ B seraq
- ☐ C jisraq

Meaning: First Ċikku stole the mouthpiece.

3 Fit-tmienja u erbatax Ċikku _____ fuq is-swiċċ.

- ☐ A se jpoġġi
- ☐ B ipoġġi
- ☐ C poġġa

Meaning: At fourteen minutes past eight Ċikku sat down on the switch.

4 Jien kont qed _____ meta d-dawl intefa.

- ☐ A se ndoqq
- ☐ B indoqq
- ☐ C daqqajt

Meaning: I was playing when the lights went out.

5 _____ waqa' t-tanbur.

- ☐ A Għada
- ☐ B Meta
- ☐ C Fl-aħħar

Meaning: In the end the drum fell.

6 Nanna, int kont qed _____!

- ☐ A torqod
- ☐ B rqadt
- ☐ C se torqod

Meaning: Grandma, you were asleep!

7 Il-festa _____ sabiħa ħafna.

- ☐ A kienet
- ☐ B kont
- ☐ C kien

Meaning: The festa was really lovely.

8 Għada _____ nixtri bolla.

- ☐ A qed
- ☐ B kont
- ☐ C se

Meaning: Tomorrow I'll buy a stamp.

G4) YOUR POSTCARD

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

kellna jkollna

Għażiża Anna! Is-Sibt _____ l-festa tar-raħal.

Meaning: Dear Anna! On Saturday we had the village festa.

L-ewwel Fl-aħħar

_____ il-qattus seraq bokkin.

Meaning: First the cat stole a mouthpiece.

żifen Imbagħad jiżfen

_____ id-dawl intefa, u l-kollega tiegħi _____.

Meaning: Then the lights went out, and my colleague danced.

kont naħdem kien ħdimt

Jien _____ qed _____ fil-bankarell.

Meaning: I was working at the stall.

tiżfnu kienu kienet jiżfnu

Ġorġ kien qed idoqq, u n-nies _____ qed _____.

Meaning: Ġorġ was playing, and people were dancing.

Kien Kienet

_____ ħelu ħafna.

Meaning: It was really nice.

se kont

Għada _____ nixtri bolla. Ċaw!

Meaning: Tomorrow I'll buy a stamp. Bye!

G5) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Put the words in order.

- 1 tefa d-dawl. L-ewwel il-bokkin, seraq imbagħad

Meaning: First he stole the mouthpiece, then he turned off the light.

- 2 jiżfen. Rajtu kien meta qed

Meaning: I saw him when he was dancing.

3 torqod! qed kont int Nanna,

Meaning: Grandma, you were asleep!

4 Jien nizfen biss. kont qed ftit

Meaning: I was only dancing a little.

5 qed kont Ella! ma' Tonio, tiżfen int

Meaning: Tonio, you were dancing with Ella!

6 Ella qed mat-tfal. tkanta kienet

Meaning: Ella was singing with the children.

- 7 niżfnu konna Aħna quddiem il-palk. qed

Meaning: We were dancing in front of the stage.

- 8 t-tanbur. waqa' Fl-aħħar

Meaning: In the end the drum fell.

- 9 qed intefa, d-dawl Meta il-kafè. kont nagħmel

Meaning: When the lights went out, I was making coffee.

G6) THE RIGHT WORDS

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 **Ask Tonio and Lina if they were dancing too. You say:**

- (A) Int kont qed tiżfen ukoll?
- (B) Intom kontu qed tiżfnu wkoll?
- (C) Intom konna qed niżfnu wkoll?

2 Marija tells everyone what she saw. Tonio was dancing. Marija says:

- ☐ A Rajtu meta se jiżfen.
- ☐ B Rajtu meta kont qed tiżfen.
- ☐ C Rajtu meta kien qed jiżfen.

3 Tell Lina what happened first. Ċikku stole the mouthpiece. You say:

- ☐ A Fl-aħħar Ċikku seraq il-bokkin.
- ☐ B L-ewwel Ċikku se jisraq il-bokkin.
- ☐ C L-ewwel Ċikku seraq il-bokkin.

4 Tell Ġorġ that Ella was singing with the children when the lights went out. You say:

- ☐ A Ella se tkanta meta d-dawl intefa.
- ☐ B Ella kienet qed tkanta meta d-dawl intefa.
- ☐ C Ella kien qed ikanta meta d-dawl intefa.

5 Tonio asks what you were doing when the lights went out. You were working at the stall. You say:

- ☐ A Kont qed naħdem fil-bankarell.
- ☐ B Kont qed ħdimt fil-bankarell.
- ☐ C Kien qed jaħdem fil-bankarell.

6 You finish your postcard to Anna. Tell her you'll buy a stamp tomorrow. You say:

- ☐ A Għada kont qed nixtri bolla.
- ☐ B Għada xtrajt bolla.
- ☐ C Għada se nixtri bolla.

7 Marija says she only closed her eyes. Ella puts her right. Ella says:

- ☐ A Nanna! Int kont qed torqod!
- ☐ B Nanna! Int kienet qed torqod!
- ☐ C Nanna! Int se torqod!