

SCENE 7 • NUMBER 7

M'hemm xejn hawn!

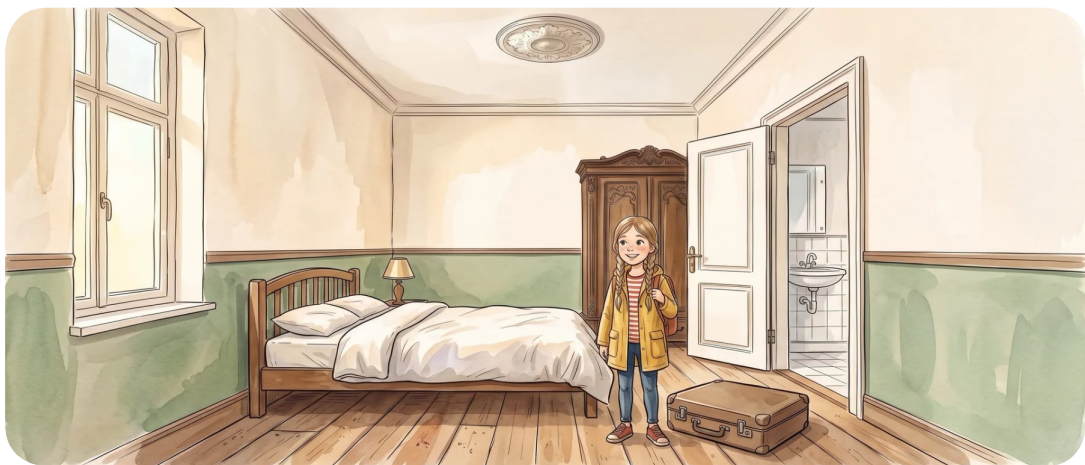
After school, Ella comes up with her school bag to see your new flat. It is almost empty.

84 Words · 5 Exercises · Duration: 15 min.

The empty flat

Maltese

Read & listen online



LEARNING GOAL

I can say what is in a flat and what is not, and ask what something is.

Ella = ■ Lena (Lukas) = ○

Learning as Lukas? Use the words in brackets.

She stands very straight in the doorway, like a grand visitor.

■ Il-ġurnata t-tajba! Nista' nidhol?

○ Hello, Ella! Mela le, idhol!

■ Mela dan l-appartament il-ġdid tiegħek?

○ Iva. Żgħir, imma tiegħi.

She points at a door.

■ U x'hemm hemm?

○ Hemm il-kamra tal-banju.

■ Il-kamra vojta ħafna! Fejn hi l-mejda?

○ M'hemmx mejda.

■ Hemm xi sigġu? Xi sufan?

○ Le. M'għandix sigġu u m'għandix sufan. Hemm sodda, lampa u bagalja biss.

■ Għaliex?

○ Jien ġdida (ġdid) hawn. Kollox fil-bagalja tiegħi.

■ Kollox? F'bagalja waħda?

She points at the big old wardrobe.

■ U dik il-gwardarobba l-kbira? Tiegħek?

○ Le, mhux tiegħi. Qadima ħafna.

■ Nista' nħares?

○ Mela le, tista'!

She opens the wardrobe. Inside sits Ċikku, on a heap of small shiny things.

○ Ċikku! U x'hemm hawn? Mgħarfa... ċavetta...

She shuts the door fast and leans against it.

■ Xejn! M'hemm xejn hawn!

Ella toqgħod b'daharha mal-gwardarobba magħluqa u titbissem, innoċenti wisq. Bejn iż-żewġ bibien tal-gwardarobba tidher il-ponta ta' denb griż.

Vocabulary

DOING THINGS • AZZJONIJIET

iħares

look / watch

Ħares lejn: look at. Ara! (look!) comes from jara, see, and so does watching TV: nara t-televiżjoni.

SMALL WORDS • KLIEM ŻGħIR

xiex

what

Before a word it is x': x'inhu? what is it? x'qed tagħmel? what are you doing? On its own: xiex?

għaliex

why

Also għala and għalfejn. The answer starts with għax: because.

xejn

nothing

With ma: ma rajt xejn, I saw nothing. As an answer, alone: xejn.

AT HOME • FID-DAR

appartament

flat

Many people just say flat.

kamra tal-banju	bathroom Literally: the room of the bath. Often just il-banju.
mejda	table Several tables: mwejjed.
siġġu	chair Several chairs: siġġijiet.
sufan	sofa
sodda	bed Several beds: sodod. Fis-sodda: in bed.
lampa	lamp
gwardarobba	wardrobe
mgħarfa	spoon Several spoons: mgħaref. A teaspoon: kuċċarina.
kamra	room Several rooms: kmamar.

NUMBERS 0-10 • IN-NUMRI 0-10

wieħed	one wieħed (m) · waħda (f). It comes after the noun: kafè wieħed, tazza waħda. First: l-ewwel.
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WHAT THINGS AND PEOPLE ARE LIKE • KIF INHU? KIF INHI?

żgħir	small żgħir (m) · żgħira (f) · żgħar (pl). Smaller: iżgħar. Also little, young: meta kien żgħir, when he was little.
vojt	empty vojt (m) · vojta (f): il-frigġ vojt, the fridge is empty. A house or flat nobody lives in: battal (battala).
kbir	big kbir (m) · kbira (f) · kbar (pl). Bigger: akbar.
qadim	old (of things) qadim (m) · qadima (f) · qodma (pl). Older: eqdem (eqdem minnek, older than you). L-Istazzjon il-Qadim: the Old Station.

EVERYDAY THINGS · AFFARIJIET TA' KULJUM**bagalja**

suitcase

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

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

1 Jien ġdida hawn. Kollox fil-bagalja tiegħi.

- ☐ A Ella
- ☐ B Lena

L2) WHAT DOES IT MEAN

Tick the right English meaning.

1 Le, mhux tiegħi. Qadima ħafna.

- ☐ A Of course you can!
- ☐ B No, it isn't mine. It's very old.
- ☐ C Everything? In one suitcase?

L3) HOW DO YOU SAY IT

Tick the right Maltese sentence.

1 The room is very empty! Where's the table?

- ☐ A Il-kamra vojta ħafna! Fejn hi l-mejda?
- ☐ B Mela le, tista'!
- ☐ C U dik il-gwardarobba l-kbira? Tiegħek?

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.

- ☐ Ċikku! U x'hemm hawn? Mgħarfa... ċavetta...
- ☐ Hello, Ella! Mela le, idħol!
- ☐ U dik il-gwardarobba l-kbira? Tiegħek?
- ☐ U x'hemm hemm?
- ☐ Hemm xi siġġu? Xi sufan?

SCENE 7 • WORDS

M'hemm xejn hawn!

There's nothing here

4 Exercises • Duration: 10 min.

The empty flat

Maltese

Read & listen online



appartament
flat



żgħir
small



kamra tal-banju
bathroom



vojt
empty



mejda
table



siggu
chair



sufan
sofa



sodda
bed



lampa
lamp



bagalja
suitcase

1

wieħed
one



gwardarobba
wardrobe

Words

appartement

flat

Mela dan l-appartement il-ġdid tiegħek?

żgħir

small

Iva. Żgħir, imma tiegħi.

xiex

what

U x'hemm hemm?

kamra tal-banju

bathroom

Hemm il-kamra tal-banju.

vojt

empty

Il-kamra vojta ħafna! Fejn hi l-mejda?

mejda

table

M'hemmx mejda.

siġġu

chair

Hemm xi siġġu? Xi sufan?

sufan

sofa

Hemm xi siġġu? Xi sufan?

sodda

bed

Le. M'għandix siġġu u m'għandix sufan.

Hemm sodda, lampa u bagalja biss.

lampa

lamp

Le. M'għandix siġġu u m'għandix sufan.

Hemm sodda, lampa u bagalja biss.

bagalja

suitcase

Kollox? F'bagalja waħda?

għaliex

why

Għaliex?

wieħed

one

Kollox? F'bagalja waħda?

gwardarobba

wardrobe

U dik il-gwardarobba l-kbira? Tiegħek?

kbir

big

U dik il-gwardarobba l-kbira? Tiegħek?

qadim

old (of things)

Le, mhux tiegħi. Qadima ħafna.

iħares	look / watch Nista' nħares?
mgħarfa	spoon Ċikku! U x'hemm hawn? Mgħarfa... ċavetta...
xejn	nothing Xejn! M'hemm xejn hawn!
kamra	room Il-kamra vojta ħafna! Fejn hi l-mejda?

VOCABULARY & COMMUNICATION

W1) WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

What does it mean?

1 sigġu

- ☐ A form
- ☐ B bathroom
- ☐ C chair

2 sodda

- ☐ A and
- ☐ B everything
- ☐ C bed

3 xiex

- ☐ A that
- ☐ B have
- ☐ C what

4 appartement

- ☐ A welcome
- ☐ B hungry
- ☐ C flat

5 mejda

- ☐ A room
- ☐ B sorry
- ☐ C table

6 kamra tal-banju

- ☐ A nice to meet you
- ☐ B good night
- ☐ C bathroom

W2) AN ALMOST EMPTY FLAT

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

appartament mejda

Mela dan l-_____ il-ġdid tiegħek?

Meaning: So this is your new flat?

Żgħir Vojt

Iva. _____, imma tiegħi.

Meaning: Yes. Small, but mine.

mejda sodda vojta qadima

Il-kamra _____ ħafna! Fejn hi l-_____?

Meaning: The room is very empty! Where's the table?

lampa gwardarobba

Hemm sodda, _____ u bagalja biss.

Meaning: There's only a bed, a lamp and a suitcase.

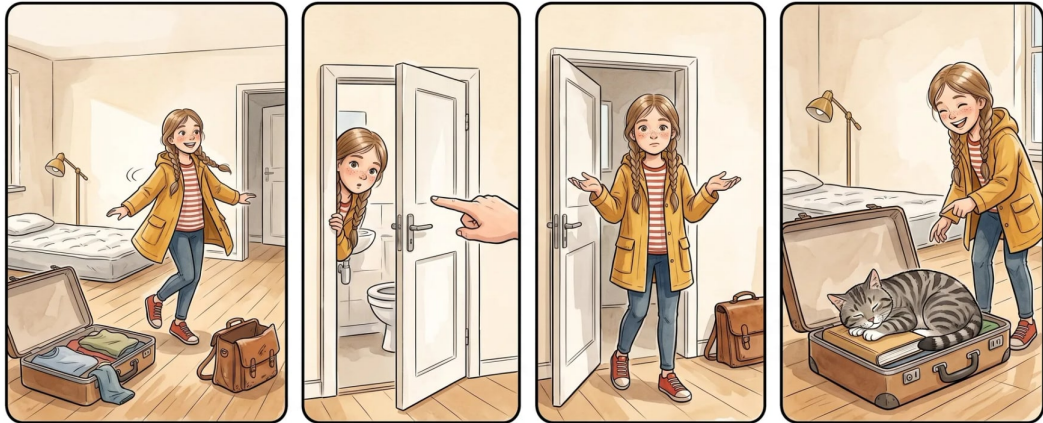
gwardarobba siġġu

U dik il-_____ l-kbira? Tiegħek?

Meaning: And that big wardrobe? Is it yours?

W3) WHERE'S ĆIKKU?

Fill the speech bubbles.



sodda bagalja lampa Fejn banju M'hemm

Ella: Ćikku! _____ int?

Lena: Fil-kamra tal-_____?

Ella: Le. _____ xejn hawn.

Lena: Hawn hu! Ćikku fil-_____!

Meaning: 1. Ćikku! Where are you?

2. In the bathroom?

3. No. There's nothing in here.

4. Here he is! Ćikku is in the suitcase!

W4) AROUND THE FLAT

Match the pairs.

① bagalja

Ⓐ spoon

② sufan

Ⓑ bed

③ sigġu

Ⓒ wardrobe

④ mejda

Ⓓ table

⑤ lampa

Ⓔ lamp

⑥ mgħarfa

Ⓕ chair

⑦ gwardarobba

Ⓖ suitcase

⑧ sodda

Ⓗ sofa

SCENE 7 • GRAMMAR

Hemm, m'hemmx, xejn

There is, there isn't, and nothing

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

The empty flat

Maltese

Read & listen online



hemm is there, as in **hemm, fuq il-kafetterija**. At the front of a sentence it says there is, or there are: **Hemm sodda**. There's a bed. With the two pieces of not, **m'** and **-x**, it says there isn't: **M'hemmx mejda**. There's no table. A thing that isn't there needs no article.

THERE IS, THERE ISN'T

There is	There isn't	Meaning
Hemm sodda.	M'hemmx sodda.	There's a bed. · There's no bed.
Hemm lampa.	M'hemmx lampa.	There's a lamp. · There's no lamp.
Hemm sigġu?	M'hemmx sigġu.	Is there a chair? · There's no chair.
Hemm il-mejda.	M'hemmx il-mejda.	The table is there. · The table isn't there.

With the article, **m'hemmx il-mejda** is about a table you know: it has gone. Lina says just that in the next scene. **m'għandix** works the same way: **M'għandix sigġu**. I don't have a chair.

To ask, add **xi**, some, any: **Hemm xi sigġu?** Is there a chair?
X'hemm? asks what is there, and it is also what's up?, as Ġorġ asks at his door. **X'hemm hemm?** What's in there?

Il-kamra vojta ħafna! Fejn hi l-mejda?

The room is very empty! Where's the table?

M'hemmx mejda.

There isn't a table.

Hemm xi sigġu? Xi sufan?

Is there a chair? A sofa?

Le. Hemm sodda, lampa u bagalja biss.

No. There's only a bed, a lamp and a suitcase.

xejn is nothing. It already says no, so the verb drops its **-x**:
M'hemm xejn. There's nothing. **M'għandi xejn.** I have nothing. **Ma naf xejn.** I know nothing. On its own, **Xejn!** answers Nothing!

WITH XEJN, THE -X GOES

Not	Nothing	Meaning
m'hemmx	m'hemm xejn	there isn't · there's nothing
m'għandix	m'għandi xejn	I don't have · I have nothing
ma nafx	ma naf xejn	I don't know · I know nothing
ma nifhimx	ma nifhem xejn	I don't understand · I understand nothing

Without its **-x**, **nifhimx** gets its **e** back: **ma nifhem xejn.**

Xejn! M'hemm xejn hawn!

Nothing! There's nothing here!

M'għandi xejn: kollox fil-bagalja.

I have nothing: everything is in the suitcase.

GRAMMAR**G1) FIND THE WORDS**

Underline the words for there is and there isn't.

- 1 Hemm il-kamra tal-banju.

Meaning: The bathroom's in there.

- 2 M'hemmx mejda.

Meaning: There isn't a table.

- 3 Xejn! M'hemm xejn hawn!

Meaning: Nothing! There's nothing here!

- 4 Le. Hemm sodda, lampa u bagalja biss.

Meaning: No. There's only a bed, a lamp and a suitcase.

- 5 Hemm xi sigġu? M'hemmx sufan?

Meaning: Is there a chair? Isn't there a sofa?

G2) IS THERE OR ISN'T THERE?

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Il-kamra vojta: _____ mejda.

- ☐ (A) m'hemmx
- ☐ (B) hemm

Meaning: The room is empty: there's no table.

2 _____ sodda, imma m'hemmx sigġu.

- ☐ (A) Hemm
- ☐ (B) M'hemmx

Meaning: There's a bed, but there's no chair.

3 Fil-gwardarobba _____ Ċikku!

- ☐ (A) hemm
- ☐ (B) m'hemmx

Meaning: Ċikku is in the wardrobe!

4 Xejn! M'hemm _____ hawn!

☐ A kollox

☐ B xejn

Meaning: Nothing! There's nothing here!

5 Xejn! _____ xejn hawn!

☐ A M'hemm

☐ B M'hemmx

Meaning: Nothing! There's nothing here!

6 Ella, ma _____. X'hemm fil-gwardarobba?

☐ A nifhem

☐ B nifhimx

Meaning: Ella, I don't understand. What's in the wardrobe?

7 U _____ hemm?

☐ A kif hemm

☐ B x'hemm

Meaning: And what's in there?

8 _____ sigġu u m'għandix sufan.

- ☐ A Mhux għandi
- ☐ B M'għandix

Meaning: I don't have a chair and I don't have a sofa.

9 Kollox fil-bagalja. M'għandi _____ hawn.

- ☐ A xejn
- ☐ B kollox

Meaning: Everything is in the suitcase. I have nothing here.

10 Ma _____ x'hemm fil-gwardarobba.

- ☐ A nafx
- ☐ B naf

Meaning: The wardrobe? I don't know what's in it.

G3) AN EMPTY ROOM

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

x'hemm min

U _____ hemm?

Meaning: And what's in there?

Hemm M'hemmx

_____ il-kamra tal-banju.

Meaning: The bathroom's in there.

m'għandix Hemm M'hemmx għandi

_____ mejda, u _____ sigġu.

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

xejn kollox

U fil-gwardarobba? M'hemm _____?

Meaning: And in the wardrobe? Is there nothing?

xejn nifhimx

Ella titkellem malajr, u jien ma nifhem _____.

Meaning: Ella speaks fast, and I understand nothing.

nafx naf xejn

Ma _____: m'għandi _____ fil-gwardarobba.

Meaning: I don't know: I have nothing in the wardrobe.

G4) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Put the words in order.

- 1 Hemm sodda, biss. bagalja lampa u

Meaning: There's only a bed, a lamp and a suitcase.

- 2 fil-kamra. M'hemmx mejda

Meaning: There's no table in the room.

- 3 Hemm hawn? siġġu xi

Meaning: Is there a chair here?

- 4 xejn fil-gwardarobba. M'hemm

Meaning: There's nothing in the wardrobe.

5 l-appartament tiegħi. M'għandi imma xejn,

Meaning: I have nothing, but the flat is mine.

6 Ma hemm. x'hemm nafx

Meaning: I don't know what's in there.

7 Skużani, nifhimx. ma

Meaning: Sorry, I don't understand.

8 Jien m'għandix sufan.

Meaning: I don't have a sofa.

G5) THE RIGHT WORDS

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 Ella asks where your table is. You don't have one. You say:**
 - ☐ A Hemm mejda.
 - ☐ B Mhux mejda.
 - ☐ C M'hemmx mejda.

- 2 You'd like to know if there is a sofa somewhere. You say:**
 - ☐ A Hemm xi sufan?
 - ☐ B M'hemmx sufan.
 - ☐ C Xejn sufan?

- 3 Ella opens the wardrobe, sees Ćikku on his heap of treasures, and slams it shut. Ella says:**
 - ☐ A Xejn! Hemm xejn hawn!
 - ☐ B Xejn! M'hemm xejn hawn!
 - ☐ C Xejn! M'hemmx xejn hawn!

4 Ask Ella what's in the wardrobe. You say:

- ☐ A Hemm fil-gwardarobba?
- ☐ B X'hemm fil-gwardarobba?
- ☐ C Min hemm fil-gwardarobba?

5 Tell Ella you don't have a chair. You say:

- ☐ A M'għandix sigġu.
- ☐ B M'għandi sigġu.
- ☐ C Ma għandix sigġu.

G6) QUESTION AND ANSWER

Match each question to its answer.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ 1 Kollox fil-bagalja? | ☐ A Xejn! |
| ☐ 2 Hemm xi sigġu? | ☐ B Iva, kollox. |
| ☐ 3 X'hemm hemm? | ☐ C M'għandix mejda. |
| ☐ 4 Fejn hi l-mejda? | ☐ D Il-kamra tal-banju. |
| ☐ 5 X'hemm fil-gwardarobba? | ☐ E Le, m'hemmx. |