

SCENE 32 • NUMBER 7

Iksaħ minn Hamburg

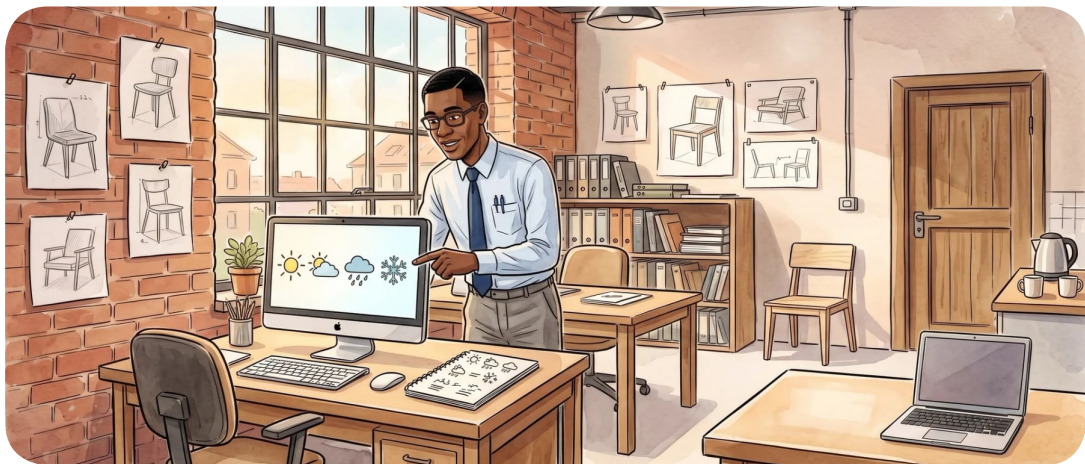
Wednesday. Tonio has the forecast for next week, festival week, on his screen: Monday rain, 17 degrees; Tuesday sun, 26 degrees. What is it like at home now? And in winter here? 8 degrees. And in summer, where do people go? The sea, Gozo, the seafront.

150 Words · 5 Exercises · Duration: 15 min.

The weather and what to wear

Maltese

Read & listen online



LEARNING GOAL

I can understand a forecast, compare the weather here and at home, and talk about the seasons.

Tonio = ■ Lena (Lukas) = O

Wednesday morning in the office. Tonio has the forecast open on his screen, and a notebook beside it.

■ Bongu! Taf x'temp jagħmel il-gimgha d-dieħla?

- Le. Għaliex il-ġimgħa d-dieħla?
- Għax is-Sibt id-dieħel il-festa. Jien dejjem għandi pjan għal kollox.
- It-Tnejn xita, sbatax-il grad. It-Tlieta x-xemx, sitta u għoxrin. L-Erbgħa sħab u riħ.
- U kif inhu t-temp issa f'Hamburg?
- Iksaħ minn hawn, u iktar xita.
- Iktar xita minn hawn? Veru?
- Veru. F'Hamburg tagħmel ix-xita kważi kuljum.
- U kif inhi x-xitwa hawn?
- Iksaħ mis-sajf! F'Jannar, bil-lejl, tmien gradi.
- Tmien gradi? Dak sħun! F'Hamburg kultant minus għaxra!
- Imma x-xitwa togħgobni. Fix-xitwa l-qtates joqogħdu d-dar.
- U int? X'inhu l-istaġun preferut tiegħek?
- Is-sajf! Il-ġranet itwal, il-baħar isħan, u tista' tgħum.
- Fis-sajf kulhadd imur il-baħar. Imma f'Għawdex isbaħ.
- Isbaħ, forsi. Imma ibgħad.
- Ibgħad, iva. Imma isbaħ.

○ U għall-festa? X'jgħid it-tbassir?

■ Filgħodu x-xemx, imbagħad ix-xita, filgħaxija r-riħ. U forsi l-borra.

○ Il-borra? F'Malta?

He points under his desk: four bags in a row.

■ F'April qatt ma taf. Hares: erba' boroż.

■ Waħda għax-xemx, waħda għax-xita, waħda għar-riħ, u waħda għall-borra.

○ Tonio, għandek bżonn borża waħda biss. Imma akbar.

Tmur lura għall-iskrivaniġa tiegħek. Tonio jikteb fuq kull borża: xemx, xita, riħ, borra. Fil-borża tax-xemx, Ċikku diġà rieqed.

Vocabulary

DOING THINGS • AZZJONIJIET

jgħum

swim

Taf tgħum? Can you swim? In the sea: ngħum il-baħar.

PLACES IN TOWN • POSTIJIET FIL-BELT

baħar

sea

Several seas: ibħra.

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

diehel

next (next week)

After the noun, with the article: il-ġimgħa d-dieħla (next week), is-Sibt id-diehel (next Saturday). Next in a row: li jmiss, ir-ritratt li jmiss.

preferut**favourite**

preferut (m) · preferuta (f). After the noun, with the article: l-istaġun preferut tiegħek, your favourite season.

SEASONS · STAĠUNI**xitwa****winter**

Fix-xitwa: in winter.

sajf**summer**

Fis-sajf: in summer.

DATES AND EVENTS · DATI U OKKAŻJONIJIET**festa****festival**

Il-festa: the village feast of the patron saint, with the band, fireworks and stalls in the square.

WEATHER · IT-TEMP**kiesaħ****cold**

kiesaħ (m) · kiesħa (f). It's cold: jagħmel il-bard; I'm cold: għandi l-bard. Colder: iksaħ.

minus**minus**

Below zero: taħt iż-żero.

sħun**warm**

Maltese has one word for warm and hot: sħun (m) · sħuna (f) · sħan (pl): ħwejjeġ sħan, warm clothes. It-temp sħun: the weather is warm. Warmer: isħan.

borra**snow**

It almost never snows in Malta. It's snowing: qed tagħmel il-borra.

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

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

1 Imma x-xitwa togħgobni. Fix-xitwa l-qtates joqogħdu d-dar.

- ☐ A Tonio
- ☐ B Lena

L2) WHAT DOES IT MEAN

Tick the right English meaning.

1 Iksaħ minn hawn, u iktar xita.

- ☐ A More rain than here? Really?
- ☐ B Colder than summer! In January, at night, eight degrees.
- ☐ C Colder than here, and more rain.

L3) HOW DO YOU SAY IT

Tick the right Maltese sentence.

1 Snow? In Malta?

- ☐ A Fis-sajf kulhadd imur il-baħar. Imma f'Għawdex isbaħ.
- ☐ B Il-borra? F'Malta?
- ☐ C Iktar xita minn hawn? Veru?

L4) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Write the words in the right order on the line.

- 1 Is-sajf! isħan, tista' u Il-ġranet il-baħar tgħum.
itwal,
-

L5) WHAT HAPPENS FIRST

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

- ☐ Le. Għaliex il-ġimgħa d-dieħla?
- ☐ Tmien gradi? Dak sħun! F'Hamburg kultant minus għaxra!
- ☐ Isbaħ, forsi. Imma ibgħad.
- ☐ F'April qatt ma taf. Hares: erba' boroż.
- ☐ Veru. F'Hamburg tagħmel ix-xita kważi kuljum.

SCENE 32 • WORDS

Iksaħ minn Hamburg

Colder than in Hamburg

4 Exercises • Duration: 10 min.

The weather and what to wear

Maltese

Read & listen online



dieħel
next (next
week)



festa
festival



kiesaħ
cold



xitwa
winter



minus
minus



šhun
warm



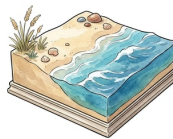
preferut
favourite



sajf
summer



jghum
swim



baħar
sea



borra
snow



qasir
short

Words

FROM THE SCENE

dieħel

next (next week)

Le. Għaliex il-ġimgħa d-dieħla?

festa

festival

U għall-festa? X'jgħid it-tbassir?

kiesaħ

cold

Iksaħ minn hawn, u iktar xita.

xitwa

winter

U kif inhi x-xitwa hawn?

minus

minus

Tmien gradi? Dak sħun! F'Hamburg kultant minus għaxra!

sħun

warm

Tmien gradi? Dak sħun! F'Hamburg kultant minus għaxra!

preferut

favourite

U int? X'inhum l-istaġun preferut tiegħek?

sajf

summer

Iksaħ mis-sajf! F'Jannar, bil-lejl, tmien gradi.

jgħum

swim

Is-sajf! Il-ġranet itwal, il-baħar isħan, u tista' tgħum.

baħar

sea

Fis-sajf kulħadd imur il-baħar. Imma f'Għawdex isbaħ.

borra

snow

Il-borra? F'Malta?

NEW WORDS

qasir

short

qasir (m) · qasira (f) · qosra (pl), of people, hair and a visit alike. Shorter: iqsar.

VOCABULARY & COMMUNICATION**W1) WHAT DOES IT MEAN?**

What does it mean?

1 xitwa

- ☐ A grandfather
- ☐ B winter
- ☐ C until

2 shun

- ☐ A how
- ☐ B sleep
- ☐ C warm

3 qasir

- ☐ A four
- ☐ B short
- ☐ C very

4 dieḥel

- ☐ A next (next week)
- ☐ B heavy
- ☐ C snow

5 festa

- ☐ A suitcase
- ☐ B festival
- ☐ C night

6 sajf

- ☐ A good evening
- ☐ B know (a fact)
- ☐ C summer

W2) THE FORECAST FOR THE FEAST

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

festa dieħla

Taf x'temp jagħmel il-ġimgħa d-_____?

Meaning: Do you know what the weather's doing next week?

xitwa festa

Is-Sibt id-dieħel il-_____.

Meaning: Next Saturday is the feast.

xemx gradi grad

It-Tnejn xita, sbatax-il _____. It-Tlieta x-_____.

Meaning: Monday rain, seventeen degrees. Tuesday sun.

sajf xitwa baħar

Fis-_____ kulħadd imur il-_____.

Meaning: In summer everyone goes to the sea.

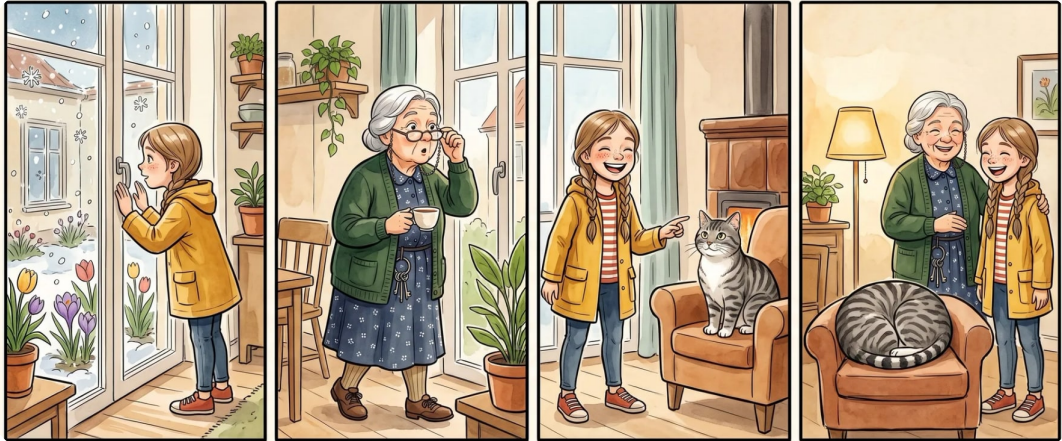
baħar borra

Il-_____? F'Malta?

Meaning: Snow? In Malta?

W3) SNOW IN APRIL?

Fill the speech bubbles.



borra sħun saġf xitwa taf riħ

Ella: Nanna, ħares! Barra hemm il-_____!

Marija: Il-borra? F'Malta? F'April? Qatt ma _____!

Ella: Ix-_____ togħgobni! U int, Ċikku?

Marija: Le. Ċikku qattus tas-_____.

Meaning: 1. Grandma, look! There's snow outside!

2. Snow? In Malta? In April? You never know!

3. I like winter! And you, Ċikku?

4. No. Ċikku is a summer cat.

W4) SUMMER AND WINTER

Match the pairs.

① kiesaḥ

Ⓐ long

② qasir

Ⓑ sea

③ twil

Ⓒ warm, hot

④ sḥun

Ⓓ snow

⑤ sajf

Ⓔ short

⑥ borra

Ⓕ summer

⑦ baḥar

Ⓖ cold

⑧ xitwa

Ⓗ winter

Akbar, iŝhan, iksaħ minn hawn

Comparing: bigger, warmer, colder than

7 Exercises • Duration: 20 min.

The weather and what to wear

Maltese

Read & listen online



To compare, most short adjectives have a form of their own, the comparative: the form for more. **ŝhun** is warm, **iŝhan** warmer • **kiesaħ** is cold, **iksaħ** colder • **kbir** is big, **akbar** bigger. It is built from the consonants of the adjective: an **i-** in front, and an **a** before the last one. So **s-ħ-n** gives **iŝhan**, **k-s-ħ** gives **iksaħ**, **t-w-l** gives **itwal**. Only **kbir** starts with **a-**. Tap the forms to hear them.

THE COMPARATIVE

Adjective	Comparative	Meaning
i- in front, a before the last consonant		
ŝhun	iŝhan	warm • warmer
kiesaħ	iksaħ	cold • colder
sabiħ	isbaħ	nice • nicer
twil	itwal	long, tall • longer, taller
qasir	iqsar	short • shorter
żgħir	iżgħar	small, young • smaller, younger
tqil	itqal	heavy • heavier
bogħod	ibgħad	far • further
a- in front		
kbir	akbar	big • bigger, older

Adjective	Comparative	Meaning
A shape of its own		
tajjeb	aħjar	good · better
ħażin	agħar	bad · worse

The comparative never changes: it is the same for masculine, feminine and plural. **Il-baħar iŝan**, the sea is warmer · **ix-xitwa iksaħ**, winter is colder · **il-ġranet itwal**, the days are longer.

Is-sajf! Il-ġranet itwal, u l-baħar iŝan.

Summer! The days are longer, and the sea is warmer.

Għawdex isbaħ, forsi. Imma ibgħad.

Gozo is nicer, maybe. But further away.

Than is **minn: iksaħ minn hawn**, colder than here · **iksaħ minn Hamburg**. Before the article, **minn** joins it, as in module 1, and takes a sun letter's sound: **mis-sajf**, than the summer · **mill-baħar**, than the sea. With a person, **minn** takes the endings you know from **għand: akbar minnek**, older than you. Only **aħna** is a little shorter: **minna**.

THAN ME, THAN YOU: MINN WITH AN ENDING

Person	minn	Example	Meaning
Singular			
jien	minni	Ġorġ itwal minni.	than me · Ġorġ is taller than me.
int	minnek	Marija akbar minnek.	than you · Marija is older than you.
hu	minnu	Ella iżgħar minnu.	than him · Ella is younger than him.
hi	minnha	Ġorġ iżgħar minnha.	than her · Ġorġ is younger than her.

Person	minn	Example	Meaning
Plural			
aḥna	minna	Huma itwal minna.	than us · They're taller than us.
intom	minnkom	Aḥna akbar minnkom.	than you · We're older than you.
huma	minnhom	Ċikku iżgħar minnhom.	than them · Ċikku is smaller than them.

akbar is bigger, and for people older; **iżgħar** is smaller, and younger. **twil** is tall too, so **itwal** is taller.

Longer adjectives, and the ones from Italian or English, have no comparative of their own. They take **iktar**, more, in front: **iktar interessanti**, more interesting · **iktar għali**, more expensive. **iktar** goes before a noun as well: **iktar xita**, more rain.

TIP

Cold is *kiesaḥ*, and you feel it the way you feel the heat: *Għandi l-bard*, I'm cold, like *Għandi s-sħana*, I'm hot.

Iksaḥ minn hawn, u iktar xita.

Colder than here, and more rain.

Iksaḥ mis-sajf! F'Jannar, bil-lejl, tmien gradi.

Colder than summer! In January, at night, eight degrees.

Jien akbar minnek, u Ella iżgħar minnek.

I'm older than you, and Ella is younger than you.

GRAMMAR**G1) FIND THE WORDS**

Underline the comparatives.

- 1 F'Hamburg iksaħ minn hawn.

Meaning: In Hamburg it's colder than here.

- 2 Il-ġranet itwal, u l-baħar iŝan.

Meaning: The days are longer, and the sea is warmer.

- 3 F'Għawdex isbaħ, imma ibgħad.

Meaning: Gozo is nicer, but further away.

- 4 Ġorġ akbar minnek, imma Ella iżgħar.

Meaning: Ġorġ is older than you, but Ella is younger.

- 5 Fix-xitwa l-ġranet iqsar.

Meaning: In winter the days are shorter.

- 6 Il-borża ta' Tonio itqal minn tiegħi.

Meaning: Tonio's bag is heavier than mine.

- 7 Il-kafè ta' Lina aħjar minn tiegħi, u tiegħi agħar.

Meaning: Lina's coffee is better than mine, and mine is worse.

G2) THE RIGHT FORM

Choose the form that fits.

- 1 Ix-xitwa _____ mis-sajf.

- ☐ A isħan
- ☐ B kiesaħ
- ☐ C iksaħ

Meaning: Winter is colder than summer.

- 2 Il-baħar f'Malta _____ minn Hamburg.

- ☐ A isħan
- ☐ B sħun
- ☐ C iksaħ

Meaning: The sea in Malta is warmer than in Hamburg.

3 Fis-sajf il-ġranet _____ mix-xitwa.

- ☐ A iqsar
- ☐ B itwal
- ☐ C twil

Meaning: In summer the days are longer than in winter.

4 Fix-xitwa l-ġranet _____ mis-sajf.

- ☐ A itwal
- ☐ B qasir
- ☐ C iqsar

Meaning: In winter the days are shorter than in summer.

5 Il-baħar f'Għawdex _____ minn hawn.

- ☐ A isbaħ
- ☐ B sabiħa
- ☐ C sabiħ

Meaning: The sea in Gozo is nicer than here.

6 Ġorġ _____ minn Ella.

- ☐ A akbar
- ☐ B iżgħar
- ☐ C kbir

Meaning: Ġorġ is older than Ella.

7 Ella _____ minn Ġorġ.

- ☐ A żgħira
- ☐ B iżgħar
- ☐ C akbar

Meaning: Ella is younger than Ġorġ.

8 Il-borża ta' Tonio _____ minn tiegħi.

- ☐ A tqila
- ☐ B itqal
- ☐ C iqsar

Meaning: Tonio's bag is heavier than mine.

9 Għawdex _____ mill-Belt.

- ☐ A ibgħad
- ☐ B bogħod
- ☐ C iqsar

Meaning: Gozo is further away than Valletta.

10 Il-kafè ta' Lina _____ minn tiegħi.

- ☐ A tajjeb
- ☐ B agħar
- ☐ C aħjar

Meaning: Lina's coffee is better than mine.

11 Il-kafè tiegħi _____ minn ta' Lina.

- ☐ A ħażin
- ☐ B aħjar
- ☐ C agħar

Meaning: My coffee is worse than Lina's.

G3) THAN WHOM?

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Ġorġ itwal _____.

- ☐ (A) minnek
- ☐ (B) minnu
- ☐ (C) minni

Meaning: Ġorġ is taller than me.

2 Jien akbar _____.

- ☐ (A) minni
- ☐ (B) minnha
- ☐ (C) minnek

Meaning: I'm older than you.

3 Ġorġ? Ella iżgħar _____.

- ☐ (A) minna
- ☐ (B) minnha
- ☐ (C) minnu

Meaning: Ġorġ? Ella is younger than him.

4 Marija? Ġorġ iżgħar _____.

- ☐ A minnha
- ☐ B minnhom
- ☐ C minnu

Meaning: Marija? Ġorġ is younger than her.

5 Ġorġ u Lina itwal _____.

- ☐ A minnhom
- ☐ B minnkom
- ☐ C minna

Meaning: Ġorġ and Lina are taller than us.

6 Jien u Ġorġ akbar _____!

- ☐ A minnkom
- ☐ B minnhom
- ☐ C minna

Meaning: Ġorġ and I are older than you two!

7 Ġorġ u Lina? Ċikku iżgħar _____.

- ☐ (A) minnu
- ☐ (B) minnkom
- ☐ (C) minnhom

Meaning: Ġorġ and Lina? Ċikku is smaller than them.

8 Ix-xitwa iksaḥ _____.

- ☐ (A) mill-sajf
- ☐ (B) mix-sajf
- ☐ (C) mis-sajf

Meaning: Winter is colder than summer.

G4) HERE AND IN HAMBURG

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

iksaḥ iktar iṣḥan

F'Hamburg _____ minn hawn, u _____ xita.

Meaning: In Hamburg it's colder than here, and more rain.

iqsar iŝħan itwal

Hawn il-baħar _____, u fis-sajf il-ġranet _____.

Meaning: Here the sea is warmer, and in summer the days are longer.

iqsar itwal

Fix-xitwa f'Hamburg il-ġranet _____ minn hawn.

Meaning: In winter in Hamburg the days are shorter than here.

isbaħ itqal ibgħad

Għawdex _____ minn hawn, imma _____.

Meaning: Gozo is nicer than here, but further away.

akbar minni iżgħar minnek

Jien _____, u Ella _____ minnek.

Meaning: I'm older than you, and Ella is younger than you.

agħar itwal aħjar

Il-kafè ta' Lina _____ minn tiegħi, u t-te tiegħi _____.

Meaning: Lina's coffee is better than mine, and my tea is worse.

minni minnha itqal

Il-borża tiegħi _____!

Meaning: My bag is heavier than me!

minna minnhom minnkom

Ġorġ itwal _____, u Ċikku iżgħar _____ kollha.

Meaning: Ġorġ is taller than us, and Ċikku is smaller than all of them.

G5) ADJECTIVE AND COMPARATIVE

Match each comparative to its adjective.

① iqsar

Ⓐ ḥażin

② aḥjar

Ⓑ tajjeb

③ iksaḥ

Ⓒ qasir

④ itwal

Ⓓ kbir

⑤ akbar

Ⓔ sḥun

⑥ isbaḥ

Ⓕ twil

⑦ iṣḥan

Ⓖ sabiḥ

⑧ agḥar

Ⓗ kiesaḥ

G6) PUT THE WORDS IN ORDER

Put the words in order.

- 1 iksaḥ u hawn, xita. iktar minn

Meaning: Colder than here, and more rain.

- 2 iksaḥ mis-sajf. lx-xitwa

Meaning: Winter is colder than summer.

- 3 minni. akbar Ġorġ

Meaning: Ġorġ is older than me.

- 4 ibgħad. imma Għawdex isbaḥ,

Meaning: Gozo is nicer, but further away.

5 fis-sajf. ll-baħar iŝhan

Meaning: The sea is warmer in summer.

6 minnek. Ella iżgħar

Meaning: Ella is younger than you.

7 minnhom. iżgħar Ċikku

Meaning: Ċikku is smaller than them.

8 Aħna minnkom. akbar

Meaning: We're older than you two.

- 9 minnu. Marija iqsar

Meaning: Marija is shorter than him.

- 10 Il-borża tiegħi. tiegħu itqal minn

Meaning: His bag is heavier than mine.

- 11 itwal minnha. Ġorġ

Meaning: Ġorġ is taller than her.

G7) THE RIGHT WORDS

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 Tonio asks what the weather is like in Hamburg now. You say:

- (A) Iksaħ minn hawn, u iktar xita.
- (B) Kiesaħ minn hawn, u iktar xita.
- (C) Isħan minn hawn, u iktar xemx.

2 Tell Tonio why summer is your favourite season. You say:

- ☐ A Il-ġranet itwal, u l-baħar iṣḥan.
- ☐ B Il-ġranet twil, u l-baħar sħuna.
- ☐ C Il-ġranet iqsar, u l-baħar iksaḥ.

3 Tonio says Gozo is nicer, but further away. Tonio says:

- ☐ A Għawdex isbaḥ, imma ibgħad.
- ☐ B Għawdex isbaḥ, imma iqsar.
- ☐ C Għawdex agħar, imma ibgħad.

4 Ella tells you that Ġorġ is older than her. Ella says:

- ☐ A Ġorġ akbar minnha.
- ☐ B Ġorġ iżgħar minni.
- ☐ C Ġorġ akbar minni.

5 Tell Lina her coffee is better than yours. You say:

- ☐ A Il-kafè tiegħek aħjar minn tiegħi.
- ☐ B Il-kafè tiegħi aħjar minn tiegħek.
- ☐ C Il-kafè tiegħek agħar minn tiegħi.

6 A friend in Hamburg asks about the weather in Malta. It's warmer here. You say:

- ☐ A Hawn iksaħ minn Hamburg.
- ☐ B Hawn iſħan minn Hamburg.
- ☐ C Hawn sħun minn Hamburg.