ÜNİTE 1 – MERHABA

1A - TANIŞMA, SELAMLAŞMA, DİLEKLER *(GREETINGS & WISHES)*

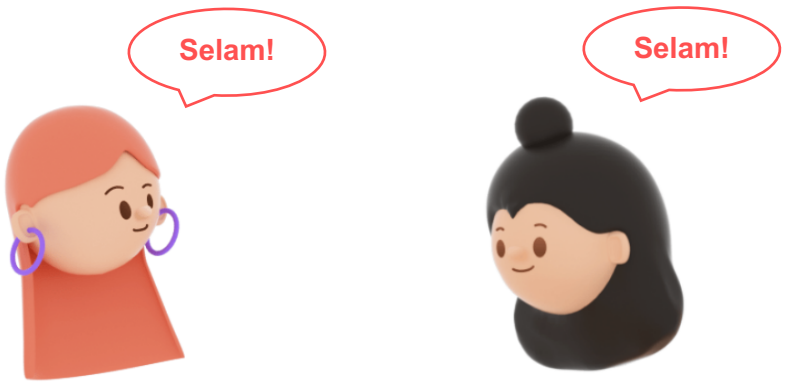
- **How to Greet People in Turkish** 🤝

There are multiple ways to greet someone in Turkish. The most common word to greet someone is **"Merhaba."** You can say **"Merhaba"** in both formal and informal settings.



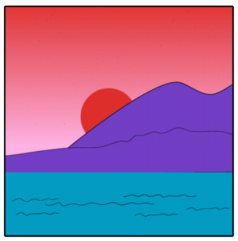
In everyday conversations the **"h"** sound is usually not pronounced. For this reason, it is sufficient to say "Meraba" without pronouncing the "h." (But when you write it, you have to include "h" → *Merhaba)*.

Another way to say "hello" in Turkish is **"Selam."** But **"Selam"** is generally more appropriate in casual Turkish contexts. So, if you want to greet a friend, you can say **"Selam."**



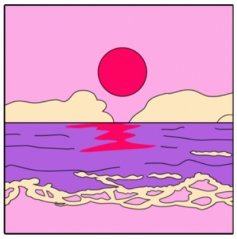
We are all aware that greeting someone in a language involves more than merely saying "hi." There are specific Turkish greetings for certain times of the day, such as *good morning*, *good afternoon*, and *good evening*. Let's take a look at them.

08:00



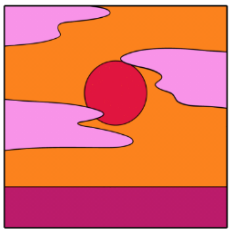
Günaydın
Good morning

12:00



Tünaydın
Good Afternoon

20:00



İyi Akşamlar
Good Evening

22:00



İyi Geceler
Good Night

We mostly use the phrase **"İyi günler"** (*Have a nice day*) rather than "Tünaydın."

Finally, let's talk about **"Hoş geldin."** It means *"Welcome."* You hear it a lot when you visit a place in Turkey, when you go to a restaurant, or when you enter a shop. But you shouldn't forget this! You should respond by saying **"Hoş buldum"** to the person who has welcomed you.

It is like Well-come *(Hoş geldin)*; Well-found *(Hoş buldum)*.

- **How to say Goodbye in Turkish** 👋

There are few good-bye words that we commonly use. The most frequent one is **"Görüşürüz."** It means *"See you."*

Görüşürüz! - *See you!*
Sonra görüşürüz! - *See you later!*

"Güle Güle" and **"Hoşça kal"** are the ones that we use to say *"Goodbye."*



IMPORTANT ✍

It may be a lot simpler for you to learn if you adopt the Turkish point of view. At the beginner level, I'll give you some insights already. If you look closely at the words in Turkish, you will usually see that something is described. Let's look at the word *Günaydın.*

To form the word *Günaydın*, we combine the words 'Gün' and 'Aydın' in Turkish. *Gün* means *"day"* and *aydın* means *"bright"*. When you wake up in the morning, you see the sun rise and the day is bright. I hope this gave you a good starting point.

TIP

Güle güle and ***Hoşça kal*** can be used in response to one another. So the person who leaves says "hoşça kal" (stay nicely) to those who stay.

If you are with your friends, you can say **"bay bay."**

Bay bay! - Bye bye!

In formal settings, we attach the **plural you suffix ("Siz" suffix)** to "hoşça kal." We will discover more about this later.

So, "hoşça kal" becomes **"hoşça kalın."**

Another way to say *"See you!"* is **"Görüşmek üzere!"** You can use it both formal and informal settings.



In short, you won't be saying bye-bye, when speaking with your instructor, supervisor, or a formal person you're e-mailing with.

IMPORTANT ✍️

If you want to talk like a native, just bring ***"hadi"*** before *goodbye*:

Hadi görüşürüz.

Hadi bay bay.

Hadi güle güle.

Hadi hoşçakal.

- **How to Ask "How are you?" in Turkish**

To ask how someone is doing, **"Nasılsın?"** is the most frequent question to ask. It literally means *"How are you?"* In plural and formal settings, we say **"Nasılsınız?"** If someone asks you **"Nasılsın?"** You can answer by saying:

İyiyim. *(I am fine.)* 👍

Harikayım. *(I am great.)* 🤩

Yorgunum. *(I am tired.)* 😩

Süperim. *(I am super.)* 😁

Bomba gibiyim. 😎

(I'm like a bomb – meaning I'm very energetic.)

You can say **"Sen nasılsın?"** or **"Siz nasılsınız?"** in the formal contexts, to ask the other person how they are doing, or asking **"Sen?"** will be enough.

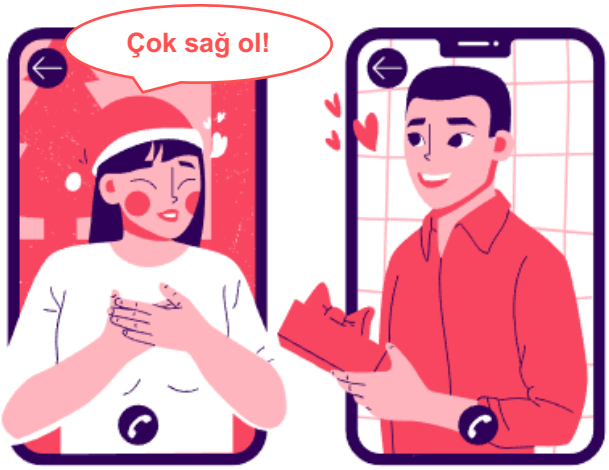
Nasılsın?
- **İyiyim, sen?**
- **Ben de iyiyim.**
Teşekkürler.

When you say **"Ben de"** before "İyiyim", you indicate **"also."** → *"I am **also** fine."*

To thank, we say:

Teşekkürler.
Teşekkür ederim.
And **Sağ ol** or **Sağ olun**. As you can guess, "Sağ ol**un**" is used in formal settings.

They are often used in both formal and informal settings.



There are several *"How are you?"* questions that you can use in informal conversations in Turkish.

"Ne haber?" or **"Naber?"** as it is pronounced in daily speech, means *"What's up?"*
To answer "Naber", we usually don't say "iyiyim", rather we answer by saying **"İyilik, senden naber?"**

- **Naber Can?** *(What's up Can?)*
- **İyilik, senden?** *(Good, you?)*
- **Benden de iyilik.** *(I'm fine, too.)*

Remember: **"de"** gives the meaning of **"also."**

The other one is **"Ne var ne yok?"** It literally means *"What's there and what isn't?"* But we translate it into English as *"What's up?"* again. It would be better to say **"İyilik, sağlık"** when answering this question rather than "İyiyim."

"İyilik, sağlık" literally means *goodness and health* indicating that everything is fine.

- **Ne var ne yok?** *(What's up?)*
- **İyilik sağlık. Sende ne var ne yok?** *(Good, what about you?)*
- **Benden de iyilik sağlık.** *(I'm fine, too.)*

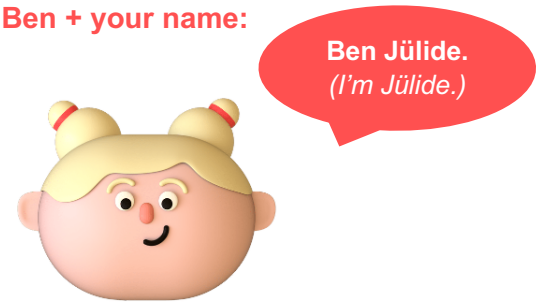
The last one that I am going to include in this group is **"Nasıl gidiyor?"** which means *"How is it going?"* You can simply answer this by saying **"İyi."**

- **Nasıl gidiyor?** *(How is it going?)*
- **İyi.** *(Good.)*
- **İyi gidiyor.** *(It goes well.)*
- **Fena değil.** (Not bad.)
- **Eh işte.** (Not bad.

- **How to Introduce Yourself** 🙋‍♀️🙋‍♂️

When introducing yourself, you can say **"Ben"** and your name:

Ben + your name:



OR you can say **"Benim adım"** then your name:

Benim adım + your name:



To ask someone's name, the question **"Adın ne?"** or **"İsmin ne?"** should be asked. In formal settings they become **"Adınız ne?"** or **"İsminiz ne?"**



IMPORTANT ✍

In the conversation above, you see that I included **"*Senin*"** in the beginning to emphasize **"your."**

BUT it wouldn't be nice if you didn't say it was nice to meet you.

"Tanıştığımıza memnun oldum" OR simply ***"Memnun oldum"*** would be enough to say nice to meet you.

To ask someone where they are from, we ask the question **"Nerelisin?"** It means *"Where are you from?"* For example:



- **Nerelisin?** *(Where are you from?)*
- **(Ben) İsviçreliyim.** *(I'm from Switzerland.)*
- **(Ben) Suriyeliyim.** *(I'm from Syria.)*
- **(Ben) Belçikalıyım.** *(I'm from Belgium.)*

If you noticed, I attached **-lı** and **-li** suffixes at the end of the countries to say where the person is from.

İsviçre - **li**
Almanya - **lı**
Suriye **-li**
Belçika **-lı**
We are going to talk about it in the coming chapters.

- **İyi Dilekler** *(Good Wishes)* 🙏

There are many expressions we use for different situations such as marriage, illnesses, birthdays and so on.

When somebody is sick we say **"Geçmiş olsun."** That means *"Get well soon."*



IMPORTANT ✍

Apart from that, if someone has had a bad incident or misfortune, we also say ***"Geçmiş Olsun"*** in these situations.

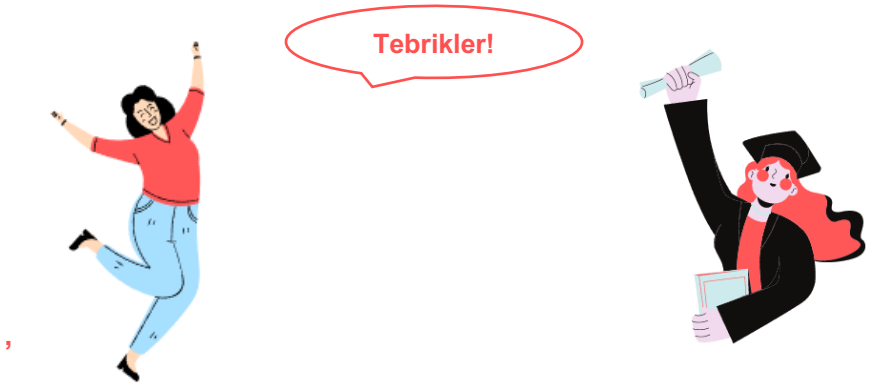
For example:

- Telefonum kırıldı. *(My phone is broken.)*
- Geçmiş olsun!

"Özür dilerim" is the expression we use to say *"I am sorry."* So, saying **"Özür dilerim"** will break the ice if you made a mistake and wish to make things right.



To congratulate, we say **"Tebrikler."** You can use this expression if someone has graduated, got a promotion, or achieved a feat.



"Afiyet olsun" is one of the most used expressions in our daily life. We say it before the meal to say "Bon appetit" and to say "I hope you enjoyed it" after the meal.



If someone sneezes, you can say **"Çok yaşa"** which literally means *"live long"* but we can translate it as *"Bless you."* In return, you should say **"Sen de gör"** which means *"I hope you see it, too"* or **"Hep beraber"** which means *"All together."*



If someone is going on a journey, to say *"Have a good trip"* we say **"İyi yolculuklar"**

