

## LESSON NOTES

# Lower Beginner S1 #3

## Take Some Time to Relax in Hungary

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# DIALOGUE - HUNGARIAN

## MAIN

1. Anne : Szia, már vártalak.
2. Balázs : Na, mit csinálunk?
3. Anne : Én még írok egy emailt, aztán beszélünk, jó?
4. Balázs : Oké. Addig pihenek.
5. Anne : Fáradt vagy?
6. Balázs : Csak egy kicsit.

## ENGLISH

1. Anne : Hi, I've been waiting for you.
2. Balázs : So, what are we doing?
3. Anne : I'll write an email and then we'll talk.
4. Balázs : OK. I'll relax in the meantime.
5. Anne : Are you tired?
6. Balázs : Just a bit.

## VOCABULARY

Hungarian	English	Class
beszél	talk	verb
ír	write	verb
Csak egy kicsit.	Just a little bit.	expression
fáradt	tired	adjective
pihen	relax, rest	verb
addig	in the meantime	adverb
kicsit	a bit	adverb
vár	wait	verb

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

A nők egy kinti kávézóban beszélgetnek. The women are talking at the outdoor cafe.	történelemről beszél talk about history
Beszélgessünk. Let's talk.	A telefonközpontos egy vevővel beszél. The operator is talking with a customer.
A telefonközpontos egy vevővel beszélt. The operator talked with a customer.	vevővel beszél talk with a customer
A nők egy kinti kávézóban beszélgetnek. "The women are talking at the outdoor cafe."	A középiskolás diák egy levelet ír. "The middle school student is writing a letter."
Nem tudok magyarul írni. "I can't write in Hungarian."	Csak egy kicsit szedj nekem! "Just a little bit for me, please (at the table)."
Fáradt vagyok, hazamegyek. "I'm tired, I'll go home."	A nő a hintaágyban pihen. "The woman is resting in the hammock."
Addig elolvasok egy cikket. "In the meantime I'll be reading an article."	Vezetne egy kicsit lassabban, kérem? "Could you drive a bit slower, please?" (formal)
Ne várj rám. Don't wait for me.	vonatra vár wait for a train
Az utas a vonatra vár. The traveler waits for the train.	Az utas a vonatra várt. The traveler waited for the train.
kint vár wait outside	Az utas a vonatra várt. "The traveler waited for the train."
Hetven perce várok. "I've been waiting for seventy minutes."	

## VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

### **Addig**

*Addig* is an adverb, and it is a very short way to express: "in the meantime." As you may remember, in Hungarian there is no difference between simple and continuous tenses. Actually, even simple future and future continuous can be expressed with present tense.

*Amíg írsz, addig én pihenek.*  
"While you're writing, I'll rest."

*Addig* is very often paired with *amíg*, which shows up in the other clause, as you can see in the previous example. In our dialogue, Balázs doesn't use this other half, because we already know from Anne's previous sentence that she will be writing an email.

### ***Már vártalak***

*Már vártalak* is often used when someone is opening the door for you. "I've been waiting for you." This does not mean that the speaker was impatient or that you are late. It is just simply polite to smile and say this when your guest finally arrives. If more than one of you did the waiting, you use: *Már vártunk!* "We've been waiting for you."

### ***Csak egy kicsit.***

This phrase ("just a little bit") can not only be used to answer questions like in our dialogue:

*Álmos vagy?*  
"Are you sleepy?"  
*Csak egy kicsit.*  
"Just a little bit."

But it can also be used when somebody is giving you food or pouring you a drink. Imagine that you're being offered the third glass of brandy. You put your hand on the glass and say:

*Csak egy kicsit kérek.*  
"I'd only like a little bit."

In this case, as you can see from our example, you also want to put *kérek* in the sentence. *Kérek* is of course "I'd like, please."

## **GRAMMAR**

**The Focus of this Lesson is Hungarian Verb Conjugation.**

***Szia, már vártalak.***

**"Hi, I've been waiting for you."**

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In our previous lesson we started explaining to you the basics of verb conjugation. As a quick reminder, let's mention again, that the first conjugation table you were given was for **present tense, indefinite** and for **regular** verbs.

Indefinite means that there is no object after the verb, or if there is one, it is indefinite. Regular is the largest group among the Hungarian verbs.

Here is the table again, this time there is second example verb:

Person	Endings	Example 1. (szeret - "love," front vowels)	Example 2. (tanul - "study," back vowels)
én "I"	-ok, -ek, -ök	szeretek	tanulok
te "you"	-sz	szeretsz	tanulsz
ő "he, she it and you (formal)"	-	szeret	tanul
mi "we"	-unk, -ünk	szeretünk	tanulunk
ti "you, plural"	-tok, -tek, -tök	szerettek	tanultok
ők "they"	-nak, -nek	szeretnek	tanulnak

As you can see from the table, front vowel verbs take the ending that also has a front vowel. *Tanul* is a back vowel verb, therefore it takes the ending that has a back vowel.

In cases where there are three forms (first row and fifth row), the third ending is attached to verbs that have *ö* or *ü* in the last syllable.

**For example:**

1. *üt*  
"hit"
2. *ütök*  
"I hit"
3. *ütünk*  
"we hit"

In the previous lesson we listed a couple of verbs that you were supposed to be pondering over on how to conjugate. Here they are again, with the answers:

*rajzol*

"draw"

It contains back vowels, therefore the conjugation is: *rajzolok, rajzolsz, rajzol, rajzolunk, rajzoltok, rajzolnak.*

*üt*

"hit"

Front vowel, and it is an *ü*, therefore we pay attention in first person singular and second person plural: *ütök, ütsz, üt, ütünk, üttök, ütnek.*

*kap*

"receive"

Back vowel: *kapok, kapsz, kap, kapunk, kaptok, kapnak.*

*ír*

"write"

Front vowel are an anomaly. One syllable *í*-words are sometimes conjugated as back, sometimes as front: *írok, írsz, ír, írunk, írtok, írnak.*

*beszél*

"talk"

Front vowels: *beszélek, beszélsz, beszél, beszélünk, beszéltek, beszélnek.*

*tud*

"know, can"

Back vowel: *tudok, tudsz, tud, tudunk, tudtok, tudnak.*

We have already used the phrase "regular verbs" before. We'll later talk about the other groups, the *-ik* verbs, the verbs ending in *-s*, *-z* or *-sz* and the irregular verbs. Don't worry, those table are not that different, just one or two persons need to be remembered differently.

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### Media and Online Entertainment

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This next cultural point is for those who spend more time in Hungary, just like Anne, and who have a couple of afternoons to waste at the rented apartment. After all, if you live abroad, you can't spend every single evening going out or visiting touristy areas.

Hungarian television only used to broadcast films and soap operas from this side of the Iron Curtain, which of course changed after the transition in 1990. The beginning of the nineties was the time when the country was catching up with a lot of the American TV shows from the seventies. That is the reason why a lot of the Hungarian twenty-somethings can recite all the important characters from *Dallas*, even though the show itself finished way before they were born.

Nowadays you can pretty much lead a conversation on the latest episode of *Lost*, *House* or any other of the hit shows—though it also might be the result of bittorrent downloads and not good programming. TV is still a bit behind the US schedule, but not much.