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## Colloquial Serbian

### Upoznavanje (Getting to know)

*Dialogue 1:*

**(A) Dzon i Andjela Braun putuju u Beograd (Jon and Andjela traveling/going to Beograd)**

Milan: Dobar dan (Good day)

Andjela: Dobar dan (Good day)

Milan: Ja sam Milan Jovanovic(ch) (I am Milan Jovanovic)

Andjela: Ja sam Andjela Braun, a ovo je moj muz (zh), Dzon. (I am Andjela Braun, and this is my husband, Jon)

Milan: Drago mi je. Dobro dosli u Beograd (Nice to meet yo. Welcome to Beograd)

**(B)**

Dzon: Vi ste Srbin, zar ne? (You are serbian, aren't you?)

Milan: Da, ja sam Srbin, a vi? (Yes, I am serbian, and you?)

Dzon: Mi smo Englezi. (We are english.)

#### Personal Pronouns:

Table 1: Personal Pronouns

Singular	Plural	English
1st Ja	Mi	I, We
2nd Ti	Vi	You(familiar), You(formal, polite)
3rd On	Oni	He, They(m. or mixed gender)
Ona	One	They(f.)
Ono	Ona	They(n.)

Personal pronouns are not used when they are the subject (nominative case), except for emphasis.

#### Examples:

Kako se zovete? (No personal pronoun)

Zovem se Milan. Kako se vi zovete? (I'm called Milan. What are you called?)

Ne razumeju engleski. Da li on govori srpski? (They don't understand English. Does he speak Serbian?)

*Dialogue 2:*

- Zdravo Andjela, kako si (Hello Andjela, how are you?)

- Dobro hvala, a kako si ti (Good thank you, and how are you?)

- I ja sam dobro, hvala (I am fine too, thank you)

- Govorite li srpski? (Do you speak serbian?)

- Naz(zh)alost, jos(sh) ne. Ali uc(tch)imo (ucim)! (Unfortunately, not yet. But we're learning)

- Bravo!

## Biti (I am)

Table 2: Short form of Biti

English	Serbian	to be
I	Ja	sam
You	Ti	si
He/she/it	On/ona/ono	je
We	Mi	smo
You	Vi	ste
They	Oni/one/ona	su

## Exercises (Vez(zh)be)

(a)

1.) Ja sam Engleskinja. Moj Muz (zh) je S(sh)kotlandjanin. (I am English (female). My husband is Scottish)

2.) Oni su Amerikanci, a mi smo Englezi. (They are american, and we are English)

3.) Vesna i Neda su Hrvatice. One su studentkinje (Vesna and Neda are croatians. They

are students)

4.) Vi ste Bosanac? (Are you (formal) Bosnian?)

5.) Oni su dobro. (They are good.)

(b)

1.) Mi ne govorimo srpski (We don't speak serbian)

2.) Ti si Francuz. (You are french (male))

3.) Vi ste studenti? (Are you students?)

4.) Andjela i Dzon su muz i zena. Oni su Englezi (Andjela and John are husband and wife. They are english.)

5.) Zovem se Milan. Ja sam iz Beograda (My name is Milan. I am from Beograd)

## Biti (I am) long form

Table 3: Long form of Biti

English	Serbian	to be
I	Ja	Jesam
You	Ti	Jesi
He/she/it	On/ona/ono	Jest(e)
We	Mi	jesmo
You	Vi	jeste
They	Oni/one/ona	jesu

## Exercise 2:

(a)

1.) Je li Neda Srpkinja? - Jeste (Is Neda Serbian?)

2.) Jesu li Dado i Denis Bosanci? - Jesu (Are Dado and Denis Bosnian?)

3.) Jesmo li mi Srbi? - Jesmo (Are we Serbs?)

4.) Je li moj muz Irac? - Jeste (Is my husband Iranian?)

5.) Jesi li ti Amerikanac - Jesam (Are you American?)

## Biti (I am) negative form

Table 4: Long form of Biti

English	Serbian	to be
I	Ja	Nisam
You	Ti	Nisi
He/she/it	On/ona/ono	Nije
We	Mi	Nismo
You	Vi	Niste
They	Oni/one/ona	Nisu

### Exercise 3:

- 1.) Mi nismo studenti - (We are not students)
- 2.) Oni nisu muz i zena - (They are not husband and wife)
- 3.) Ti nisi Englez - (You are not English)
- 4.) On nije moj muz - (He is not my husband)
- 5.) Ja nisam dobro - (I am not good)

### Exercise 4:

- Zdravo, ja sam Marko. A kako se ti zoves? (Hello, I am Marko. And what is your name?)
- Zdravo, ja se zovem Dzon. (Hello, my name is Dzon)
- Drago mi je. (Nice to meet you)
- Drago mi je.
- Jesi li ti Englez, Dzon? (Are you English, John?)
- Nisam. Ja sam Amerikanac. A ti Marko? (I am not. I am American. What about you Marko)
- Ja sam Srbin. (I am Serbian.)

### Exercise 5:

- Zdravo Vesna (Hello Vesna)

- Cao, Dzon. Cao Andjela (Hello, John and Andjela)
- Kako ste? (How are you?)
- Mi smo dobro. A ti? (We're good, and you?)
- Nisam lose (Not bad)

## Formation of questions:

### *With interrogative words:*

Zasto ucite srpski? (\*Why\* are you learning serbian?)

Ko ste vi? (\*Who\* are you?)

Sta radis ovde? (\*What\* are you doing here?)

### *No interrogative word (verb then the particle \*li\*:*

Dolazite li cesto ovamo (\*Do you\* come here often?)

Ceka li vasa zena (Is your wife waiting?)

### *No interrogative word with the conjunction da. (the particle \*li\* and verb can be placed anywhere:*

Da li govorite srpski? (Do you speak serbian?)

Da li razumete engleski? (Do you understand english?)

### *Negative questions (Zar):*

Zar ti nisi Englez? (Aren't you English?)

Zar studenti ne razumeju? (Don't the students understand?)

## Exercise 6:

a.)

1.) Da li Ben iz Londona? - Da, jeste (Is Ben from London? Yes, he is)

2.) Da li je on sada u Parizu? Ne, on je u Beogradu. (Is he in Paris now? No, he is in Beograd.)

3.) Ko ceka Bena na aerodromu? Dejan na aerodromu ceka Bena. (Who is waiting for Ben)

at the airport? Dejan is waiting for Ben at the airport.)

4.) Gde odlaze Ben i Dejan? - Oni su odlaze u Zemun (odlaze u Zemun) (Where are Ben and Dejan leaving? They are leaving for Zemun.)

b.)

Carinik - Dobar dan, gospodine Vilson. (Good day, mister Vilson).

Ben - Dobar dan. (Good day)

Carinik - Vas pasos, molim. (Your passport, please.)

Ben - Izvolite (Here you go)

Carinik - Sve je u redu. Dobro dosli u Beograd (Everything is okay. Welcome to Beograd)

Ben - Hvala. (Thank you)