



Essential Polish phrases by situation

Thirty phrases for social contact, repair, food, transport, and everyday help

Choose by relationship first

Use Dzień dobry with strangers, staff, older people, and formal contacts. Use Cześć after the relationship is informal. Polish politeness is not just vocabulary: pan/pani and third-person verb forms often replace informal ty.

Situation	Polish	English	Register / note
Greeting	Dzień dobry.	Good morning / afternoon.	neutral-polite
Greeting	Dobry wieczór.	Good evening.	neutral-polite
Greeting	Cześć.	Hi / Bye.	informal
Leaving	Do widzenia.	Goodbye.	neutral-polite
Meeting	Miło mi.	Nice to meet you.	neutral
Thanks	Dziękuję.	Thank you.	all-purpose
Thanks	Dzięki.	Thanks.	informal
Thanks	Bardzo dziękuję.	Thank you very much.	all-purpose
Response	Nie ma za co.	You're welcome.	neutral
Politeness	Proszę.	Please / Here you are.	meaning depends on context
Repair	Przepraszam.	Excuse me / Sorry.	all-purpose
Repair	Nie rozumiem.	I do not understand.	neutral
Repair	Proszę powtórzyć.	Please repeat.	polite
Repair	Proszę mówić wolniej.	Please speak more slowly.	polite
Repair	Co to znaczy?	What does that mean?	neutral
Repair	Jak to się mówi po polsku?	How do you say that in Polish?	neutral



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Keep the complete phrase; do not translate one English word at a time

Situation	Polish	English	Register / note
Help	Potrzebuję pomocy.	I need help.	neutral
Help	Gdzie jest toaleta?	Where is the toilet?	neutral
Food	Poproszę kawę.	A coffee, please.	polite ordering
Food	Rachunek, proszę.	The bill, please.	polite
Payment	Ile to kosztuje?	How much does it cost?	neutral
Payment	Czy mogę zapłacić kartą?	Can I pay by card?	polite
Transport	Bilet do Krakowa, proszę.	A ticket to Kraków, please.	polite
Transport	Gdzie jest przystanek?	Where is the stop?	neutral
Transport	O której odjeżdża pociąg?	What time does the train leave?	neutral
Direction	Jak dojść do centrum?	How do I get to the center on foot?	neutral
Problem	Zgubiłem się. / Zgubiłam się.	I am lost.	speaker agrees by gender
Hotel	Mam rezerwację.	I have a reservation.	neutral
Phone	Dzień dobry, tu Anna.	Hello, Anna speaking.	polite phone opening
Closing	Do zobaczenia.	See you.	neutral-friendly

Three-minute practice

Cover the Polish column and retrieve ten phrases. Then cover the English column and explain the situation and register. Use reviewed native audio for pronunciation; a spelling guide or browser voice is not a substitute for human phonetic review.