

## PRE- & INTERMEDIATE

## A PRACTICAL SELF-STUDY GUIDE



**CLEAR EXPLANATORY NOTES • EASY-TO-FOLLOW LAYOUT • HUNDREDS OF EXAMPLE SENTENCES**

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# Get to know our method

## How to learn with Preston?

read the sentences



read the hints and clues

listen to the pronunciation

write your translations

check the answers

## Your progress

Here you can tick the units you have completed and listened to.

| Unit | Done                     | Listened to              | Unit | Done                     | Listened to              | Unit | Done                     | Listened to              |
|------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 29.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 30.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 31.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 32.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 19.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 33.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 20.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 34.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 21.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 35.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 22.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 36.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9.   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 23.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 37.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 24.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 38.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 25.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 39.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 26.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 40.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 27.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |                          |                          |
| 14.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 28.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |                          |                          |

## Introduction

We are very happy that you are learning Polish. It may seem a difficult language, but we hope that the way we explain it will help you to get the hang of it, make you fall in love with it and succeed in learning it quickly. There are only a few books on the market for self-study of Polish. We strongly believe that ours will be ideal for you.

This book is the second part of a series for learning Polish as a foreign language. It aims to teach Polish grammar and vocabulary in easy steps from levels A2 to B1.

The book is divided thematically into 40 units, consisting of clear explanations of grammar rules, as well as lists of everyday sentences which need to be translated from English to Polish. All the most important grammar topics are included, starting from the most basic and moving on to the more advanced.

## How to work with the book

The best way to use the book is to start every unit by carefully reading the explanations which are placed on the right-hand side of the page. Next, you will need to translate the English sentences (on the left-hand side) into Polish. You can write down your versions or try to say the sentences aloud in Polish. It's best if you first cover the Polish answers so you can't see them. Finally, you should check if they are correct by comparing them with the Polish version provided on the right-hand side.

In the book, you will find simple sentences and expressions used in everyday life in natural, contemporary spoken Polish. Remember that the aim of translating the sentences is not to learn them by heart, but to understand how the Polish language is structured, and collect the knowledge which will allow you to start speaking Polish correctly.

Each unit prepares you for the next grammar topic and reviews what you have learned before. All the instructions are given in English in order to make it easy for you to understand every topic.

The book comes with downloadable audio files, which you should listen to in order to familiarize yourself with the pronunciation of the words, to practise speaking and improve your listening skills. In order to obtain them, please follow the instructions on page 3.

We firmly believe that this book will help you master basic Polish grammar and learn vocabulary which is most commonly used in everyday situations. We encourage you to devote a certain period of time every day to practise with this book, as the successful learning of a foreign language depends on being systematic. We are certain you will make quick progress and gain language confidence in almost every situation. Enjoy studying!

## Abbreviations used in this book:

|       |           |
|-------|-----------|
| sg.   | singular  |
| pl.   | plural    |
| masc. | masculine |
| fem.  | feminine  |
| neut. | neuter    |
| lit.  | literally |

We can divide Polish plural nouns into two groups:

- **masculine personal plural (masc. pers. pl.)** – refers to a group of males or a mixed group of people where males are present;
- **non-masculine personal plural (non-masc. pers. pl.)** – refers to a group of females, animals or objects. In short: a group that does not contain a male.

However, in order to make it easier for you, instead of writing non-masc. pers. pl. where it is necessary, we only use the abbreviation fem.pl. If there is no abbreviation next to plural nouns, they are all masc. pers. pl.

If a singular verb or adjective refers to a feminine noun, we use the abbreviation fem. If a verb or adjective refers to a masculine noun, we don't use any symbol or abbreviation.

While reading this book, keep in mind that word order usually doesn't matter that much in Polish (unlike for example in English) and very often you can place the words in a different order. However, we have chosen for you the most natural way to say all the sentences.

## 4. ACCUSATIVE, INSTRUMENTAL AND GENITIVE



1. **an older brother**  
Do you know that she has an older brother? .....
2. **your uncle**  
Did you get it from your uncle? .....
3. **a new café**  
They are opening a new café here soon. ....
4. **photography**  
We are interested in photography. ....
5. **this cheap shop**  
What time are they closing this cheap shop? .....
6. **my mobile/cell phone**  
I'm looking for my mobile phone. Don't you know where it is? .....
7. **pizza, ham**  
I won't cook now, but I will order a pizza with ham in the evening. ....
8. **time, our grandmother**  
It's a pity that you (pl.) won't have time for the meeting with our grandmother. ....
9. **Magda**  
Is it Magda's bike? .....
10. **a good doctor**  
His uncle is a very good doctor. ....
11. **a pretty/nice bag, my sister**  
I (fem.) bought a pretty/nice bag for my sister. ....
12. **my cat, a big table**  
– Have you (pl.) seen my cat?  
– Yes, it is under the big table. ....
13. **this shop, sense**  
The name of this shop is nonsense (lit. is without sense). ....
14. **summer**  
In summer, we usually travel a lot. ....
15. **Bartek, Mateusz**  
Where are we meeting? At Bartek's or Mateusz's? .....
16. **mayonnaise**  
I don't like mayonnaise. ....
17. **hot coffee, iced coffee**  
I don't want hot coffee. I prefer iced coffee. ....
18. **our boss**  
– When are you (pl.) going on holiday?  
– I don't know, it depends. ....

1. **starszy brat**  
Czy wiesz, że ona ma starszego brata?
2. **twój wujek**  
Czy dostałeś to od twojego wujka?
3. **nowa kawiarnia**  
Niedługo otwierają tu nową kawiarnię.
4. **fotografia**  
Interesujemy się fotografią.
5. **ten tani sklep**  
O której zamykają ten tani sklep?
6. **moja komórka**  
Szukam mojej komórki. Nie wiesz, gdzie ona jest?
7. **pizza, szynka**  
Nie będę teraz gotować, ale wieczorem zamówię pizzę z szynką.
8. **czas, nasza babcia**  
Szkoda, że nie będziecie mieć czasu na spotkanie z naszą babcią.
9. **Magda**  
Czy to jest rower Magdy?
10. **dobry lekarz**  
Jego wujek jest bardzo dobrym lekarzem.
11. **ładna torebka, moja siostra**  
Kupiłam ładną torebkę dla mojej siostry.
12. **mój kot, duży stół**  
– Widzieliście mojego kota?  
– Tak, jest pod dużym stołem.
13. **ten sklep, sens**  
Nazwa tego sklepu jest bez sensu.
14. **lato**  
Latem zwykle dużo podróżujemy.
15. **Bartek, Mateusz**  
Gdzie się spotykamy? U Bartka czy u Mateusza?
16. **majonez**  
Nie lubię majonezu.
17. **gorąca kawa, kawa mrożona**  
Nie chcę gorącej kawy. Wolę mrożoną.
18. **nasz szef**  
– Kiedy jedziecie na wakacje?  
– Nie wiem, to zależy od nasz

You already know that Poles very often change the endings of words. In the first part of *Speak Polish*, we studied three cases (cases change word endings): the accusative (page 56), the instrumental (page 92) and the genitive (page 118). Let's revise them! In this unit, we will be mixing all of them.

Below, you can find a reminder of when to use which case, and you can check and revise all the endings of these three cases.

**Accusative** is used after:

*lubić* (to like), *mieć* (to have), *jeść* (to eat), *pić* (to drink), *kochać* (to love), *woleć* (to prefer), *oglądać* (to watch), *czytać* (to read), *czekać na* (to wait for), *zamawiać* (to order), *kupować* (to buy), *znać* (to know), *chcieć* (to want), *widzieć* (to see), *gotować* (to cook), *robić* (to do / to make), *brać* (to take), *całować* (to kiss), *piec* (to bake), *pisać* (to write), *sprzątać* (to clean), *zamykać* (to close),  *tłumaczyć* (to translate), *tańczyć* (to dance), *uwielbiać* (to adore / to like a lot), *otwierać* (to open), *prosić* (to ask for).

**Instrumental** is used after:

- some verbs: *jechać* (to go by), *interesować się* (to be interested in), *być* (to be + a noun OR: to be + an adjective and a noun, NOT: to be + an adjective);
- prepositions: *z* (with), *między* (between), *za* (behind), *przed* (in front of), *nad* (above), *pod* (under, below).

**Genitive** is used after:

- verbs which work with the accusative when they are in the negative form, e.g. *nie lubić*, *nie mieć*;
- prepositions: *do* (to/till), *bez* (without), *dla* (for), *z* (from a place), *od* (from a particular time, since), *u* (at a person's place);
- some verbs: *śłuchać* (to listen to), *szukać* (to look for), *potrzebować* (to need), *bać się* (to be afraid of), *uczyć się* (to learn/study), *życzyć* (to wish), *zapominać* (to forget); these verbs take the genitive in positive and negative sentences;
- some quantifiers: *dużo* (a lot of), *mало* (little), *trochę* (a bit of);
- *nie ma* (there isn't / there aren't).

The genitive is also used for almost all words following *of* in English and to express possession (e.g. the Saxon genitive: Stefan's car).

Even more words work with these three cases. I will familiarize you with them in the following units.

Let's review the endings of these three cases.

**Accusative singular endings:**

|                                                                               | Masc.                |           | Fem. | Neut.     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|------|-----------|
|                                                                               | animate and personal | inanimate |      |           |
| <b>Adjective</b><br>(e.g. big, black)<br>or <b>pronoun</b><br>(e.g. my, your) | -ego                 | no change | -ą   | no change |
| <b>Noun</b><br>(e.g. dog, coffee)                                             | -a                   | no change | -ę   | no change |



## 4. BIERNIK, NARZĘDNIK I DOPEŁNIACZ



19. **cheesecake, apple pie**  
My grandmother likes baking cheesecake and apple pie. ....
20. **plane**  
We waited for the plane a very long time. ....
21. **car**  
His uncle needs a car. ....
22. **Adam, Piotrek**  
Karolina lives below Adam and Piotrek. ....
23. **good soup**  
My aunt cooked some good soup yesterday. ....
24. **water**  
When it's hot, you should drink a lot of water. ....
25. **sandwich, butter, cheese, pepper**  
My dad has made a sandwich with butter, cheese and pepper. ....
26. **son, dentist**  
I was at the dentist's with my son. ....
27. **a large coffee, milk, sugar**  
A large coffee with milk but without sugar, please. ....
28. **her boyfriend, a good architect**  
Do you know her boyfriend? He is a very good architect. ....
29. **laptop, key**  
Your phone is between the laptop and the key. ....
30. **the theatre, the opera**  
Do you prefer the theatre or the opera? ....
31. **calm music**  
I like listening to calm music in the evening. ....
32. **tram**  
We should go there by tram number three. ....
33. **this boring comedy**  
Are you watching this boring comedy again? ....
34. **dark chocolate**  
He really likes dark chocolate. ....
35. **green tea**  
There isn't any green tea left. Can you buy some tomorrow? ....
36. **ham, rocket**  
A pizza with ham and rocket, please. ....

19. **sernik, szarlotka**  
Moja babcia lubi piec sernik i szarlotkę.
20. **samolot**  
Bardzo długo czekaliśmy na samolot.
21. **samochód**  
Jego wujek potrzebuje samochodu.
22. **Adam, Piotrek**  
Karolina mieszka pod Adamem i Piotrkim.
23. **dobra zupa**  
Moja ciocia ugotowała wczoraj dobrą zupę.
24. **woda**  
Kiedy jest gorąco, powinieneś pić dużo wody.
25. **kanapka, masło, ser, papryka**  
Mój tata zrobił kanapkę z masłem, serem i papryką.
26. **syn, dentysta**  
Byłem z synem u dentysty.
27. **duża kawa, mleko, cukier**  
(Po)proszę dużą kawę z mlekiem, ale bez cukru.
28. **jej chłopak, dobry architekt**  
Znasz jej chłopaka? On jest bardzo dobrym architektem.
29. **laptop, klucz**  
Twój telefon jest między laptopem a/i kluczem.
30. **teatr, opera**  
Wolisz teatr czy operę?
31. **spokojna muzyka**  
Wieczorem lubię słuchać spokojnej muzyki.
32. **tramwaj**  
Powinniśmy pojechać tam tramwajem numer trzy.
33. **ta nudna komedia**  
Znowu oglądasz tę nudną komedię?
34. **gorzka czekolada**  
On bardzo lubi gorzką czekoladę.
35. **zielona herbata**  
Nie ma już zielonej herbaty. Możesz ją jutro kupić?
36. **szynka, rukola**  
(Po)proszę pizzę z szynką i rukolą.

### Instrumental singular endings:

|                                                                               | Masc.                       | Fem. | Neut.                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Adjective</b><br>(e.g. big, black) or<br><b>pronoun</b><br>(e.g. my, your) | -ym<br>-im<br>(after k, g)  | -ą   | -ym<br>-im<br>(after k, g)  |
| <b>Noun</b><br>(e.g. dog, coffee)                                             | -em<br>-iem<br>(after k, g) | -ą   | -em<br>-iem<br>(after k, g) |

### Genitive singular endings:

|                                                                               | Masc.                |           | Fem.     | Neut. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|-------|
|                                                                               | animate and personal | inanimate |          |       |
| <b>Adjective</b><br>(e.g. big, black) or<br><b>pronoun</b><br>(e.g. my, your) | -ego                 | -ego      | -ej      | -ego  |
| <b>Noun</b><br>(e.g. dog, coffee)                                             | -a                   | -a<br>-u  | -y<br>-i | -a    |

You can use more than one case in a sentence. For example, in sentence no. 27 we use the accusative after *proszę* and the instrumental after *z*.

If you would like to say that something is between two things, then **między** should be followed by **a** or **i**, e.g.:

Kubek jest **między** lampą **a** laptopem. / Kubek jest **między** lampą **i** laptopem. – The mug is between the lamp and the laptop.

Remember, it is also possible to replace *między* with *pomędzy* (they are synonyms).

**Ta** means *this* (feminine form). As you already know, it can change when you need to use a different case.

You should remember to use **tę** in the accusative and **tą** in the instrumental.

In order not to get confused, you should also remember to use **tę** if it is before a noun which ends in -ę (e.g. **tę** książkę), and to use **tą** if it is before a noun which ends in -ą (e.g. **tą** kawą).

It's interesting that it's also correct to say **tą** in the accusative, but only in spoken language. When you write, you should always choose **tę**.

### This (feminine form):

| Nominative | Accusative                    | Instrumental |
|------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| ta         | tę/tą (only in spoken Polish) | tą           |

# 12. REVIEW 1



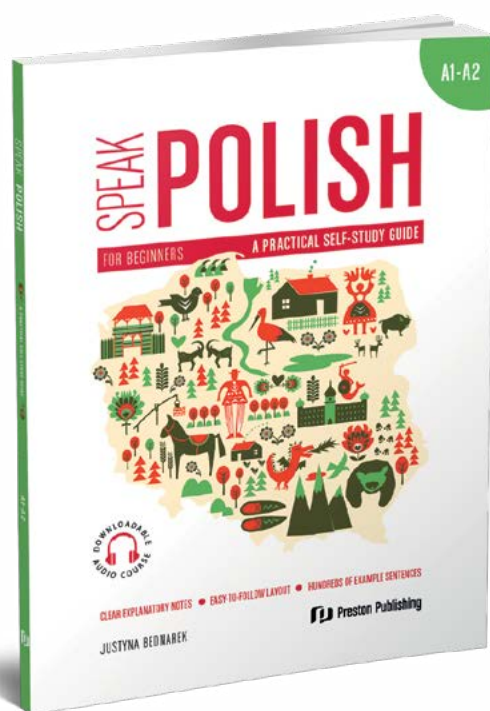
1. November was very busy. ....
2. Even if it's true, you shouldn't say it at the meeting. ....
3. Today, it's definitely quieter here. We can finally rest. ....
4. They are going back there in January. ....
5. We were very nervous before the exam. ....
6. The trip was very tiring. ....
7. It will be their 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary next year. ....
8. You look much worse than yesterday. We are going to the hospital. ....
9. While you are eating, I will call my mum. ....
10. There was a long queue at the post office. ....
11. We are going to celebrate our grandfather's 74<sup>th</sup> birthday at the weekend. ....
12. There has been no electricity at home since 8 o'clock. ....
13. Our guest really wants to meet (lit. get to know) you. ....
14. If you (pl.) paint the walls, it will be prettier here. ....
15. Do you (pl.) remember who you were standing behind in the queue? ....
16. The children were running around the park until it started (lit. didn't start) to rain. ....
17. Who is this woman in the kitchen? Do you know her? ....
18. This TV costs 900 PLN. ....

It's time to revise the previous 11 units!  
Good luck!

- [illegible]

# SPEAKPOLISH PART 1

A PRACTICAL SELF-STUDY GUIDE FOR BEGINNERS



CLEAR EXPLANATORY NOTES

EASY-TO-FOLLOW LAYOUT

HUNDREDS OF EXAMPLE SENTENCES

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A PRACTICAL SELF-STUDY GUIDE

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- learn important rules of Polish grammar,
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