



# COMPLETE FINNISH MASTER COURSE

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# Contents

<b>The sounds of Finnish</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Tutustutaan</b>	<b>5</b>
Making contact	
<b>2 Ei, kiitos!</b>	<b>26</b>
No thanks	
<b>3 Ole hyvä!</b>	<b>46</b>
Help yourself!	
<b>4 Paikasta toiseen</b>	<b>61</b>
Getting around and about	
<b>5 Mitä me ostetaan?</b>	<b>80</b>
What'll we buy?	
<b>6 Mennääks kiskalle!</b>	<b>103</b>
Let's go to the kiosk!	
<b>7 Eiks ookki ihana päästä kotiin joulunviettoon!</b>	<b>126</b>
Isn't it great to get home for Christmas!	
<b>8 Huonosta vielä huonommaksi</b>	<b>146</b>
From bad to worse	
<b>9 Aika ja tila</b>	<b>165</b>
Time and space	
<b>10 Mitä tehtäs tänään?</b>	<b>184</b>
What'll we do today?	
<b>11 Yhä nopeammin</b>	<b>203</b>
More and more quickly	
<b>12 Maton alla tuntuu olevan jotain</b>	<b>221</b>
There seems to be something under the carpet	

<b>13</b>	<b>Mikä laulaen tulee . . .</b>	<b>236</b>
	Easy come . . .	
<b>14</b>	<b>Karhut voi kai olla vaarallisiakin</b>	<b>252</b>
	Bears can be dangerous, I suppose	
<b>15</b>	<b>Vakavia asioita</b>	<b>267</b>
	Serious matters	
<b>16</b>	<b>Älköön sanottako!</b>	<b>286</b>
	Let it not be said . . .	
	 <b>Key to exercises</b>	 <b>303</b>
	<b>Appendix A: Finnish - English Vocabulary</b>	<b>323</b>
	<b>Appendix B: Finnish Culture</b>	<b>765</b>

# FINNISH GRAMMAR





# The sounds of Finnish



(CD1; 1)

The basic rule is this: don't rush; give all the sounds their due time and attention. (If you think you're holding a sound much too long, it's probably about right.)

## Vowels (CD1; 2)



The letters **i e a o u y ä ö** when written single stand for sounds which are always pronounced fairly *short*, *but never mumbled or clipped*, regardless of position. *Always long* are the sounds written **ii ee aa oo uu yy ää öö**, i.e. the same eight letters doubled.

The vowels may be classified roughly according to their manner of articulation as high (**i y u**), mid (**e ö o**), and low (**ä a**); front (**i y e ö ä**) vs. back (**u o a**); and rounded (**y ö u o**) vs. unrounded (**i e ä a**). *Rounded* here refers to the position of the lips, which are then pursed and slightly protruded. *High*, *mid*, and *low*, and, in parallel fashion, *front* and *back* refer to the relative positions of the tongue.

Listen to the recording and do your best to imitate these samples, concentrating on the vowel marked with italics. Remember to stress the first syllable, regardless of what else is going on later on in the word.

	Finnish	Meaning	Pronounced as in German	Pronounced as in English
i	<b>kiva</b>	smashing	<i>bitte</i>	'bit' (especially Australian)
ii	<b>kiitos</b>	thanks	<i>biete</i>	'bead'
u	<b>kuva</b>	picture	<i>gucke</i>	'cook' (especially Australian)
uu	<b>kuuma</b>	hot	<i>Schuhe</i>	(billed and) 'cooed'
y	<b>kylä</b>	village	<i>Hütte</i>	—
yy	<b>tyyli</b>	style	<i>müde</i>	—



<b>ee</b>	<b>veteen</b>	into the water	<i>gäbe</i>	'square', but with no trace of an <i>r</i>
<b>oo</b>	<b>taloon</b>	into the house	—	'north', but with no trace of an <i>r</i>
<b>öö</b>	<b>keittiöön</b>	into the kitchen	<i>Höhle</i>	—
<b>aa</b>	<b>pataan</b>	into the pot	<i>Ahnung</i>	'palm'
<b>ää</b>	<b>pesään</b>	into the nest	—	'ban', but longer
<b>e</b>	<b>keli</b>	road conditions	<i>Bett</i>	'bet'
<b>o</b>	<b>Koli</b>	(place name)	<i>solle</i>	—
<b>ö</b>	<b>köli</b>	keel	<i>Hölle</i>	—
<b>a</b>	<b>kala</b>	fish	<i>knapp</i>	'palm', but shorter
<b>ä</b>	<b>käsi</b>	hand	—	'bat'



### (CD1; 3)

The letter sequences **ie** **uo** **yö** represent diphthongs. You may first attempt them by simply pronouncing a good Finnish **i**, **u**, or **y** followed by a good Finnish **e**, **o**, or **ö**. Avoid allowing the diphthong to 'centre', i.e. do not pronounce the second vowel as a *schwa* (as in Leeds or New York 'near', 'cure'). Avoid, also, the temptation to lengthen the second vowel at the expense of the first (as in Italian *miele*, *buono*).

<b>ie</b>	<b>kieli</b>	language	—	cf. Jamaican 'face'
<b>uo</b>	<b>Suomi</b>	Finland	—	cf. Jamaican 'goat'
<b>yö</b>	<b>syödä</b>	to eat	—	—



### (CD1; 4)

Here are some more examples to practise. Make sure you can clearly hear the difference in length (of the vowels, again, in italics):

English	short	long	English	contrast
pig	<b>sika</b>	<b>siika</b>	herring	<b>i : ii</b>
of a row	<b>rivin</b>	<b>riviin</b>	into a row	<b>i : ii</b>
of a name	<b>nimen</b>	<b>nimeen</b>	into a name	<b>e : ee</b>
of a fish	<b>kalan</b>	<b>kalaan</b>	into a fish	<b>a : aa</b>
of a poem	<b>runon</b>	<b>runoon</b>	into a poem	<b>o : oo</b>
of sorrow	<b>surun</b>	<b>suruun</b>	into sorrow	<b>u : uu</b>
expenses	<b>kulut</b>	<b>kuulut</b>	you belong	<b>u : uu</b>
summer cabin	<b>mökki</b>	<b>rööki</b>	fag, cigarette	<b>ö : öö</b>
wrinkle	<b>ryppy</b>	<b>ryyppy</b>	(alcoholic) drink	<b>y : yy</b>



# Consonants

## (CD1; 5)

Most of the consonants also come in short and long varieties. Between vowels, the long consonants are written double. For example:



who?	<b>kuka</b>	<b>kukka</b>	flower
worm	<b>mato</b>	<b>matto</b>	rug
help	<b>apu</b>	<b>vappu</b>	May Day
heap	<b>kasa</b>	<b>kassa</b>	cash register
beer	<b>olut</b>	<b>ollut</b>	been

When two different consonants occur next to one another, either the first or the second is long. Length is indicated in spelling as follows.

## (CD1; 6)

- 1 If the first consonant is pronounced short and the second consonant is pronounced long, the second consonant is written double.

Examples:



<b>linssi</b>	lens	<b>lamppu</b>	lamp
<b>kantta</b>	lid (sP)	<b>valssi</b>	waltz
<b>kartta</b>	map	<b>palkka</b>	salary
<b>ankka</b>	domesticated duck	<b>teltta</b>	tent
<b>helppo</b>	easy	<b>kirppu</b>	flea
<b>marssi</b>	march	<b>herkkä</b>	sensitive, touchy

## (CD1; 7)

- 2 In the reverse scenario, that is, if the first consonant is pronounced long and the second is pronounced short, *both consonants are written single*. Practise these examples:



<b>länsi</b>	west	<b>tylsä</b>	stupid
<b>tunti</b>	hour	<b>halko</b>	log
<b>hanki</b>	snowcrust	<b>pelto</b>	field
<b>lampi</b>	pond	<b>halpa</b>	cheap
<b>norsu</b>	elephant	<b>itse</b>	self
<b>korpi</b>	backwoods	<b>yskä</b>	cough

## (CD1; 8)

Special attention should be paid to the following letters:





**h** represents a sound much like English ‘h’ in ‘hut’, except when written to the left of another consonant letter, when it represents a voiceless velar fricative (as in German *Bach*) or a voiceless palatal fricative (as in German *ich*), depending, as in German, on the preceding vowel. Listen to these words and try to copy the differences:

<b>sohva</b>	sofa
<b>lahti</b>	bay
<b>kirahvi</b>	giraffe
<b>karahvi</b>	carafe
<b>pihvi</b>	steak
<b>tyhjä</b>	empty

**b, d, g** represent sounds much like those of English ‘bait’, ‘date’, and ‘gate’, except that the sequence **ng** stands for a long velar nasal [ŋ], not a sequence of velar nasal [ŋ] plus [g]. If you distinguish the medial sounds of ‘finger’ and ‘singer’, it’s the latter sound you want, but with a longer pronunciation. Examples:

<b>Helsingissä</b>	in Helsinki
<b>ongelma</b>	problem

In **nk**, the **n** stands for velar [ŋ] as in English ‘bank’.

*Note:* Many speakers often substitute other sounds for **d**: you will probably hear **j** and **r** most often.



## **Glottal stop and its consequences (CD1; 9)**

The Finnish alphabet has no symbol for the glottal stop, which is pronounced by most Finnish speakers at the ends of forms such as **istu!** ‘sit!’ or **palaute** ‘feedback’. (Glottal stop is commonly heard in London, e.g. instead of **t** in ‘city’ and ‘not a lot’). In Finnish, the glottal stop often attaches to following consonants, making them longer; it has other, grammatical effects as well. To help you to acquire a good pronunciation and to render Finnish grammar more transparent, this book writes the glottal stop in grammatical sections and in the vocabularies as **Q**: for example, the two forms given above may be written **istuQ**, **palautteQ**.

# Unit One

## Tutustutaan

Making contact

In this unit you will learn:

- how to say what country you're from, what you do, and how to ask the same about others
- how to ask and answer yes/no questions
- one way to express possession
- how vowels in a Finnish word cooperate with one another (vowel harmony), and how consonants fight (consonant compression)



## Dialogue



### **Esittäytyminen** Introducing yourself (CD1; 10)



Juuso and Paul introduce themselves to each other.

---

JUUSO Hyvää päivää. Juuso Virtanen.

PAUL Hyvää päivää. Paul Smith. Hauska tutustua.

JUUSO Hauska tutustua.

JUUSO *Good day. (I'm) Juuso Virtanen.*

PAUL *Good day. (I'm) Paul Smith. Pleased to meet you.*

JUUSO *Pleased to meet you.*

---





## Language point



### (CD1; 11)

To introduce yourself in Finnish, you say your name. It's polite to preface your name with a greeting such as

**Hyvää huomenta!** (lit. 'Good morning'), said in the morning

**Hyvää päivää!** ('Good day'), said throughout the day,  
until it's time for

**Hyvää iltaa!** ('Good evening'), said in the evening

and to offer to shake hands. Usually, the phrase **Hauska tutustua** 'Pleased to meet you' gets thrown in, as well. Here's another example, with the 'I'm' (**Mä olen**) explicitly stated:



### (CD1; 12)

IRMA Hyvää päivää. Mä olen Irma Ojala.

SOPHIE Hyvää päivää. Sophie Grant. Hauska tutustua.

IRMA *Good day. I'm Irma Ojala.*

SOPHIE *Good day. I'm Sophie Grant. Pleased to meet you.*



### (CD1; 13)

In less formal contexts, the greetings **hei** or **moi** are used, and surnames dispensed with:

MASA Moi. Mä olen Masa.

HANNU Moi. Hannu.

MASA *Hi. I'm Masa.*

HANNU *Hi. (I'm) Hannu.*

Follow-up will usually consist of saying where you're from and what you do for a living. Let's go back to Paul and Juuso:

JUUSO Oletteko te englantilainen?

PAUL Olen.

JUUSO *Are you English?*

PAUL *Yes. (lit. 'I am.')*

Here's the follow-up to the conversation between Irma and Sophie:

---

IRMA Oletteko te opettaja?

SOPHIE Olen.

IRMA *Are you a teacher?*

SOPHIE *Yes. (lit. 'I am.')*

---

Formal Finnish doesn't really have a word that works like English 'yes'. Instead, the key word in the question is repeated. See also below, 'Answering "yes" to yes/no (-kO) questions'.

## Exercise 1



Build short dialogues in which the Finns and foreigners listed below introduce themselves to each other. Use the greetings given above, and the phrases **Oletteko te X** 'Are you X?' and **Olen** 'Yes (I am)'; don't forget **Hauska tutustua**. Here are some nationalities to start with:

<b>suomalainen</b>	Finnish, a Finn
<b>ruotsalainen</b>	Swedish, a Swede
<b>venäläinen</b>	Russian, a Russian
<b>eestiläinen</b>	Estonian, an Estonian
<b>englantilainen</b>	English, an English person
<b>amerikkalainen</b>	American, an American
<b>kanadalainen</b>	Canadian, a Canadian
<b>australialainen</b>	Australian, an Australian
<b>ranskalainen</b>	French, a French person
<b>saksalainen</b>	German, a German
<b>belgialainen</b>	Belgian, a Belgian
<b>puolalainen</b>	Polish, a Pole
<b>unkarilainen</b>	Hungarian, a Hungarian
<b>sveitsiläinen</b>	Swiss, a Swiss
<b>egyptiläinen</b>	Egyptian, an Egyptian
<b>somalilainen</b>	Somali, a Somali
<b>saamelainen</b>	Sa(a)mi, a Sa(a)mi
<b>romani</b>	Romany, a Rom
<b>walesilainen</b>	Welsh, a Welsh person
<b>skotlantilainen</b>	Scottish, a Scot



Some Finnish names

### Women

Marja Mäkinen  
Satu Salokangas  
Eila Elstelä  
Raija Nieminen  
Tiia Talvela

### Men

Hannu Huttunen  
Pekka Pitkänen  
Kalevi Koponen  
Samu Santala  
Heikki Karapää

Some foreigners' names

Nigel Baker	Yuri Yavlinsky
Albert O'Rourke	Jorge González
Wilfred Owen	Seiji Nakamura
Angus Salmon	Szilvia Farkas
Françoise Peugeot	Annikke Rätsep
Renate Porsche	Wang Wei
Sergio Lamborghini	



## Language points

To make statements like 'I am English' or 'I am an engineer', you have to know (1) how to use personal pronouns; (2) how to use the verb 'is'; (3) vocabulary for nationalities, countries, and occupations. These are the three areas which we shall explore in the next three sections.

### Personal pronoun basics

English pronouns distinguish three subject persons, 'I' – 'you' – '(s)he/it' and singular from plural ('I' v. 'we', 'he' v. 'they'). So do Finnish pronouns, but the gender distinction 'he/she' is absent. On the other hand, other distinctions are important. We'll summarize these distinctions under four points:

- 1 *Full v. cropped*: 'I' is either **minä** or **mä**; 'you', if addressed to a friend, is either **sinä** or **sä**. In other words, alongside the full-length forms **minä** and **sinä** are shorter, or 'cropped' forms; the cropped forms are more colloquial.
- 2 'He', 'she', 'it' are all **se** in colloquial Finnish, and 'they' is **ne**. In more formal style, **se** and **ne** are used only when referring to animals or things; for humans, **hän** is used in the singular and **he** in the plural.

- 3 The third person pronouns (**hän**, **he**, **se**, **ne**) are not usually omitted; the others may be omitted if they are not stressed, but to include them (in their cropped forms, of course) is more colloquial.
- 4 When speaking to one person, you may express distance, politeness, or formality by using the second person plural. (In colloquial contexts, you use the second person plural only when addressing more than one person.)

The singular subject pronouns are a bit complex, so we'll overview them diagrammatically:

Subject person	s1	mă	mină		
	s2	să	sină	(te + p2)	
	s3	se		hän	humans
				se	other
		colloquial ↔ formal contexts			

## How to say 'am', 'are', and 'is': the verb **ole-** 'be'

The most frequently used verb in Finnish is the verb **ole-** 'to be'. Here are its present tense forms in more formal Finnish:

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	<b>(minä) ole n</b> I am	<b>(me) ole mme</b> we are
2	<b>(sinä) ole t</b> you are	<b>(te) ole tte</b> you are
3	<b>hän/se on</b> (s)he/it is	<b>he ovat</b> they are

Finnish has no future tense, so English equivalents of **minä olen** also include 'I will/shall be'. You'll learn about a way to explicitly express future in Unit 6.

As mentioned in the preceding section, the p2 form **(te) ole|tte** is used not only when addressing more than one person, but also to express politeness when addressing a single person.



As mentioned in the previous section, colloquial Finnish uses **se** to refer to people, as well, and the cropped pronoun forms **mä** and **sä** are frequent. There are also two other differences: for ‘they are’, colloquial Finnish has **ne on** instead of **he ovat**; and for ‘we are’, colloquial Finnish has **me ollaan**. More on these forms in later units.

## Vocabulary building: Danish engineers and so on

### Countries and nationalities

You have already met several names of nationalities above, and you will probably have noticed that they all end in either **lainen** or **läinen**. This is because **lainen/läinen** is a suffix by means of which Finnish derives nationality names from simpler, shorter words, usually names of countries. The form with **a** is used if the word to which the suffix is added contains an **a**, **o**, or **u** (thus **tanska|lainen**, **puola|lainen**) and the form with **ä** is used elsewhere (thus **venä|läinen**, **sveitsi|läinen**). This sort of matching-up of vowels is called *vowel harmony*; you’ll learn more about it later on in this unit.

For now, you can use the list below to revise nationality names while you learn the country names on which they are based; if in doubt, refer back to the exercise at the beginning of this unit. Notice the irregularities – unexpected **-a-**, **-jä** – in the words for ‘Finnish’, ‘Swedish’, and ‘Russia’.

Nationality	Country	Nationality	Country
suoma lainen	Suomi	skotlanti lainen	Skotlanti
ruotsa lainen	Ruotsi	saksa lainen	Saksa
venä läinen	Venäjä	belgia lainen	Belgia
eesti läinen	Eesti	puola lainen	Puola
englanti lainen	Englanti	unkari lainen	Unkari
amerikka lainen	Amerikka	sveitsi läinen	Sveitsi
kanada lainen	Kanada	egypti läinen	Egypti
australia lainen	Australia	somalia lainen	Somalia
ranska lainen	Ranska	saame lainen	NB
walesi lainen	Wales	romani	NB

As the example **Wales/walesilainen** (pronounced [valesilainen] or [veilsiläinen]) shows, an **-i-** is added to foreign words which end

in a consonant in order to ease the attachment of the suffix; further examples are **Niger/nigeriläinen**, **Gabon/gabonilainen**.

## Occupations

Like names of nationalities, names for occupations are usually derived from words. Such words are derived from simpler words by means of derivational suffixes, which we shall distinguish by prefixing them with an equals sign (=). Common derivational suffixes which form occupation names are **=isti** and **=ikko**, both of which are usually added to stems which you will either recognize or be able to guess:

<b>pianisti</b>	pianist ( <b>piano</b> 'piano')		
<b>klarinetisti</b>	clarinetist ( <b>klarineti</b> 'clarinet')		
<b>kontrabasisti</b>	double-bassist ( <b>kontrabassi</b> 'double-bass'; note <b>-s-</b> v. <b>-ss-</b> !)		
<b>muusikko</b>	musician	<b>matemaatikko</b>	mathematician
<b>mekaanikko</b>	mechanic	<b>botaanikko</b>	botanist
<b>poliitikko</b>	politician	<b>akateemikko</b>	academic

*Tip:* The vowel in the syllable immediately preceding the occupation-forming suffix **=ikko** is usually long: **muusikko**, **matemaatikko**, **poliitikko**. Contrast **musiikki** 'music', **matematiikka** 'mathematics', and **politiikka** 'politics', with the vowel lengths reversed.

Also easy to recognize and remember are:

<b>diplomaatti</b>	diplomat
<b>insinööri</b>	engineer
<b>poliisi(konstaapeli)</b>	police (constable)

but probably not:

<b>tulkki</b>	interpreter
---------------	-------------

The ending **ri** is frequent:

<b>tuomari</b>	judge
<b>maalari</b>	painter
<b>leipuri</b>	baker
<b>lääkäri</b>	doctor

The suffix **=ja**, which is added to verbs, is the closest Finnish equivalent to the English **=er** of *writer* or the **=or** of *director*. In later units,

you will meet some of the verbs from which these occupation names are derived:

<b>opetta ja</b>	teacher
<b>kirjaili ja</b>	writer
<b>runoili ja</b>	poet
<b>asianaja ja</b>	solicitor, lawyer
<b>ohjaa ja</b>	(film) director
<b>valokuva ja</b>	photographer
<b>maanviljeli jä</b>	farmer
<b>sairaanhoita ja</b>	nurse
<b>tarjoili ja</b>	waiter
<b>toimisto-työnteki jä</b>	office worker
<b>opiskeli ja</b>	student

The compound-element **mies** ('man; husband'; stem **miehe-** !) is also common, whether the person is a man or a woman:

<b>laki mies</b>	jurist ( <b>laki</b> 'law')
<b>meri mies</b>	sailor ( <b>meri</b> 'sea')
<b>posti mies</b>	mail carrier ( <b>posti</b> 'post, mail')
<b>palo mies</b>	firefighter ( <b>palo</b> 'fire which destroys a building')
<b>lehti mies</b>	journalist ( <b>lehti</b> 'leaf; newspaper')

Finally, some older terms are made with **seppä** 'smith':

<b>puu seppä</b>	joiner ( <b>puu</b> 'tree; wood')
<b>lukko seppä</b>	locksmith ( <b>lukko</b> 'lock')
<b>kello seppä</b>	watchmaker ( <b>kello</b> 'clock, watch')

Putting it all together

You have now met the three basics you need to know in order to say 'I am English', 'Harriet is an engineer', even 'The Frenchman is a musician'. The neutral, normal way is to string the three items together, subject–verb–predicate, in precisely that order. Thus we have subject (**minä, Harriet, ranskalainen**), then verb (**olen, on, on**), and finally predicate (**englantilainen, insinööri, muusikko**):

**Minä olen englantilainen.**

**Harriet on insinööri.**

**Ranskalainen on muusikko.**

Notice that both subject and predicate are in the nominative.



## Exercise 2



Now combine and revise what you have learned in the preceding sections by translating the following Finnish sentences into English:

- 1 Minä olen englantilainen.
- 2 Minä olen insinööri.
- 3 Mä olen skotlantilainen muusikko.
- 4 Sä olet ulkomaalainen.
- 5 Te olette italialainen diplomaatti.

## Exercise 3



Put into Finnish:

- 1 Are you a doctor?
- 2 She is a Hungarian director.
- 3 I am an English businessman.
- 4 He is a French mathematician.
- 5 I am a Canadian student.

## Exercise 4



Use analogy, guesswork, and – if desperate – the answers in the back of this book to fill in the missing items in each line of the table below.

Nationality	English	Country	English
1 ____	Danish	Tanska	Denmark
2 kreikkalainen	Greek	____	Greece
3 ____	Norwegian	Norja	Norway
4 ____	Dutch	Hollanti	Holland
5 albanialainen	Albanian	____	Albania
6 ____	Ukrainian	Ukraina	Ukraine
7 ____	Turkish	Turkki	Turkey
8 ____	Portuguese	Portugalia	Portugal



## Language point

### Asking yes/no questions: -ko (and vowel harmony)

As you have seen, the Finnish for 'Are you?' is **oletteko**, in other words: the verb form **olette** 'you are' plus a suffix **-ko**. This is the standard way to form yes/no questions in Finnish: you attach this suffix to the word you're asking about. Thus **Onko se suomalainen?** simply asks whether or not someone is Finnish, but **Suomalainenko se on?** singles out 'Finnish', something like 'Is (s)he *Finnish*? (and not Norwegian, or . . .)'.

Now, this suffix is not always **-ko**. Like **=lainen/=läinen** and indeed like most Finnish suffixes it has two shapes. The difference between the two shapes lies in the vowel: for this suffix the shapes are **-ko** and **-kö**. Which shape you use depends on the vowels of the word to which the suffix is attached. The rule may be stated quite simply in two parts: (1) if the word has any of the vowels **u, o, a**, you use **-ko**, e.g.:

<b>Onko se italialainen?</b>	Is (s)he Italian?	( <b>Italialainen</b> contains <b>a</b> , so <b>-ko</b> )
<b>Pariisiko?</b>	Paris?	( <b>Pariisi</b> contains <b>a</b> , so <b>-ko</b> )
<b>Lontooko?</b>	London?	( <b>Lontoo</b> contains <b>o</b> , so <b>-ko</b> )
<b>Turkuko?</b>	Turku?	( <b>Turku</b> , the name of Finland's former capital, contains <b>u</b> , so <b>-ko</b> )

Similarly:

<b>Ranskalainenko te olette?</b>	Are you <i>French</i> ?
<b>Huomennako?</b>	Tomorrow?

(2) otherwise, you use **-kö**:

<b>Sveitsikö?</b>	Switzerland?	(no <b>u, o, a</b> in <i>Sveitsi</i> , so <b>-kö</b> )
-------------------	--------------	--

Similarly:

<b>Helsinkiläinenkö sä olet?</b>	Are you a <i>Helsinki</i> nian?
----------------------------------	---------------------------------

In compound words, it is the vowels of the last word which are decisive. For example, the word **lukko|seppä** 'locksmith' takes **-kö** because the last member of this word, **seppä** 'smith' has no **u**, **o**, **a**: **Lukkoseppäkö te olette?** 'Are you a *locksmith*?'

To save time and space, we shall refer to the question suffix as **-kO**, with the upper case **O** to serve as a reminder that the vowel is **o** or **ö** depending on vowel harmony. Similarly, whenever a suffix has **a** or **ä** depending on vowel harmony, we shall write **A**, and upper case **U** will refer to the vowel pair **u** and **y**.

For a minor refinement of the vowel-harmony rule given above, see Unit 10.

## Exercise 5

Ask politely (i.e. use **te** and the second person plural form of the verb) whether someone is:



- 1 Finnish
- 2 a locksmith
- 3 Russian
- 4 a policeman
- 5 French

## Exercise 6

Ask these questions in Finnish, laying emphasis on the italicized words by attaching the appropriate form of **-kO**:



- 1 Is he *Japanese*?
- 2 Are you an *engineer*?
- 3 Is he a *firefighter*?
- 4 Are you *German*?
- 5 Is she a *politician*?

Answering 'yes' to yes/no (-kO) questions

You answer in the affirmative by repeating the verb form, if this is what was being questioned:

**Oletteko te suomalainen?**  
**Olen.**

Are you Finnish?  
Yes.



If the yes/no-question suffix **-ko** was added to any word other than the verb, you say **niin**; it is more polite to repeat the questioned word, as well:

<b>Ruotsalainenko sä olet?</b>	Are you <i>Swedish</i> ?
<b>Niin, ruotsalainen.</b>	Yes, I am.

Finally, there is simple **joo**. This corresponds more to English 'yeah' than to 'yes', i.e. it is used only in informal, colloquial contexts:

<b>Oletsa suomalainen?</b>	Are you Finnish?
<b>Joo.</b>	Yeah.



## Language point

### How to say 'Irma's friend' and 'the capital of France': the genitive case and an introduction to nominal stem-types

Have a look at these sentences:

<b>Mikä <i>sen</i> opettajan nimi on?</b>	What's <i>that</i> teacher's name?
<b>Kuka tuo on?</b>	Who's that?
<b>Se on <i>Irman</i> ystävä.</b>	That's <i>Irma's</i> friend.

The words **se|n**, **opettaja|n**, and **Irma|n** are all in the genitive case. The Finnish genitive does the work of the 's' in English 'Irma's friend' and the 'of' in 'the capital of France'.

To form the genitive of any Finnish nominal (= noun or adjective) you add the suffix **-n**. So 'Irma's friend' is **Irma|n ystävä** (where **ystävä** is 'friend') and 'the capital of France' is **Ranska|n pääkaupunki** (where **pääkaupunki** is 'capital'). The rest of this section shows you how to do this.

### Non-alternating stems

For thousands of nominals like **Irma** and **Ranska**, you just add the **-n** to the 'citation form'. (This is the form of the nominal which is listed in dictionaries. It is also called the nominative singular, so we shall use the abbreviation **sN**.)

These nominals all have citation forms ending in vowels, and their shapes do not vary, or at least they vary in predictable ways (for the most widespread predictable way see ‘consonant compression’, below). We shall call them *non-alternating* stems because their stem endings remain unchanged to the left of the genitive singular (sG) suffix **-n**. All nominals that end in **a, ä, o, ö, u**, and **y** (or their long equivalents **aa, ää, oo, öö, uu, yy**) are non-alternating. Examples:

<i>Citation form (sN)</i>	<i>sG</i>	<i>English</i>
<b>kala</b>	<b>kala n</b>	fish
<b>kesä</b>	<b>kesä n</b>	summer
<b>talo</b>	<b>talo n</b>	house
<b>hölmö</b>	<b>hölmö n</b>	fool
<b>savu</b>	<b>savu n</b>	smoke
<b>levy</b>	<b>levy n</b>	record, disk

Any adjective modifying a noun must agree with that noun in case. So both ‘green’ and ‘house’ are in the genitive in **vihreä|n talo|n ovi** ‘the door of the green house’ (**vihreä** ‘green’) and both ‘green’ and ‘door’ are in the nominative in **talo|n vihreä ovi** ‘the green door of the house’.

## Exercise 7a

Have a go at translating these possessive phrases into English. You’ll need the words listed just above, plus these: **pyrstö** ‘tail’, **ovi** ‘door’, **maku** ‘taste’, **loppu** ‘end’, **pöllö** ‘owl’, **siipi** ‘wing’, **koko** ‘size’.



- |                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 1 kala n pyrstö | 5 pöllö n siipi         |
| 2 talo n ovi    | 6 levy n koko           |
| 3 kala n maku   | 7 Liisa n huone         |
| 4 kesä n loppu  | 8 klarinetisti n tulkki |

## Alternating stems

These are nominals whose shape changes when to the left of the genitive singular suffix. Most are easy to spot, once you know what

to look for. In this unit you have already met one very common type: nominals ending in **=lAinen** such as **ranskalainen** ‘French’, **egyptiläinen** ‘Egyptian’. These and *all* Finnish nominals (except **kymmenen** ‘ten’) that have a citation form ending in **nen** have a stem that ends in **se**, and it is to this stem that case suffixes are added. Have a look at these forms:

sN	<b>ranskalainen</b>	<b>egyptiläinen</b>
sG	<b>ranskalaise n</b>	<b>egyptiläise n</b>

It’s best to learn the groupings of alternating stems gradually; we’ll discuss them as they come up. For another important group of alternating stems see the section on e-stems later in this unit.



## Language point

### Boxes with tight lids: consonant compression

In the preceding section, you saw how adding the genitive singular **-n** can trigger changes in alternating stems. This section introduces you to another kind of alternation which this and other suffixes can trigger.

If you examine the nominative and genitive singular of the following three stems, you will notice that something is happening to the **t**.

<i>Citation form (sN)</i>	<i>sG</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Consonant alternation</i>
<b>katu</b>	<b>kadu n</b>	street	<b>t ~ d</b>
<b>hattu</b>	<b>hatu n</b>	hat	<b>tt ~ t</b>
<b>hinta</b>	<b>hinna n</b>	price	<b>nt ~ nn</b>

The **-t-** of **katu** ‘street’ is said to ‘weaken’ to **-d-** in the genitive **kadu|n** ‘of a street’; in parallel fashion, the **-tt-** of **hattu** ‘hat’ weakens to **-t-** in the genitive **hatu|n** ‘of a hat’, and the consonant cluster **-nt-** of **hinta** is **-nn-** in the genitive **hinna|n**.

One way to think of this ‘weakening’ is that it is a kind of *compression*. It is as if Finnish words were boxes full of various consonants and that suffixes like **-n** were tight-fitting lids: putting such a ‘lid’ onto



the top of a ‘box’ that is already full crams the ‘consonant contents’ of that word into a tighter, more compressed shape.

What kind of word is a ‘full box’? One that has very little ‘space’ at the end, i.e. any word ending in a short vowel.

What kind of suffix is a ‘tight lid’? Any suffix which consists of a single consonant (like our **-n**) or begins with two consonants. With certain exceptions which we will detail as we go along, adding any such suffix causes compression of any **p**, **t**, or **k** inside the ‘box’.

For example, long **pp** compresses to **p**:

<b>kauppa</b>	shop
<b>kaupa n</b>	sG

and short **p** preceded by a vowel compresses to **v**:

<b>apu</b>	help
<b>avu n</b>	sG

On the other hand, the **p** of **vapaa** ‘free’ is not compressed when we add the ‘tight lid’ **-n**, because the long vowel (**aa**) at the end provides plenty of vowel space:

<b>vapaa</b>	free
<b>vapaa n</b>	sG

These and other, parallel alternations (which we shall call *consonant compression*) are quite regular. Consonant compression is not difficult to learn, because (1) it is regular (the rules will be introduced as we go along), and it is pervasive: it occurs throughout most of the grammar and lexicon of the Finnish language; (2) it operates in parallel (for example, all longs compress to shorts); (3) it is restricted: every alternation-pair involves a **p**, **t**, or **k**; apart from some slang vocabulary, no other consonants are involved in compression.

For ease of reference, all consonant changes due to compression are set out below. Do read it through now, but *not* with the aim of memorizing it! Read it through merely in order to familiarize yourself with the kinds of changes that are involved.

The changes are illustrated here by the form of the genitive, so what we have is a list of possessive noun phrases. Each consists of a noun in the genitive singular followed by another in the nominative singular. The consonant compression which is illustrated in each case is listed in the column on the right.

- 1 Long **pp**, **tt**, **kk**, compress to short **p**, **t**, **k**:

<b>kauppa</b> shop	<b>kaupa n ovi</b> the door of the shop	<b>pp</b> > <b>p</b>
<b>lukko</b> lock	<b>luko n hinta</b> the price of the lock	<b>kk</b> > <b>k</b>
<b>tyttö</b> girl	<b>tyttö n nimi</b> the girl's name	<b>tt</b> > <b>t</b>

Since this type (**pp** > **p**, **kk** > **k**, **tt** > **t**) involves the *length*, i.e. the quantity, of the consonants, we shall call it *quantitative* compression. Quantitative is the only kind of compression which affects personal names (**Pekka** 'Peter', **Peka|n** 'Peter's') and most foreign words.

All other types of compression are *qualitative*. They are:

- 2 To the right of a nasal (**m**, **n**, [ŋ], see p. 4), compressed **p**, **t**, **k** assimilate, i.e. they copy the nasal:

<b>rumpu</b> drum	<b>rummu n pärinä</b> the beating of the drum	<b>mp</b> > <b>mm</b>
<b>Helsinki</b> Helsinki	<b>Helsingi n historia</b> the history of Helsinki	<b>nk</b> > <b>ng</b> [ŋŋ]
<b>hinta</b> price	<b>hinna n romahdus</b> 'the collapse in (lit. 'of') the price	<b>nt</b> > <b>nn</b>

- 3 Otherwise, **p** (unless preceded by **s**) compresses to **v**:

<b>apu</b> help	<b>avu n tarvitsija</b> a needer (i.e., one in need) of help	<b>p</b> > <b>v</b>
<b>halpa</b> cheap	<b>halva n hotelli n osoite</b> the address of a cheap hotel	<b>p</b> > <b>v</b>

- 4.1 A **k** between two **u**'s or **y**'s also compresses to **v**:

<b>puku</b> dress, suit	<b>puvu n hinta</b> the price of the dress	<b>k</b> > <b>v</b>
<b>kyky</b> ability	<b>kilpailukyvy n ylläpitäminen</b> the sustaining of the ability to compete	<b>k</b> > <b>v</b>

- 4.2 but between other vowel combinations, compressed **k** melts into the surrounding vowels:

**laki** law    **lai|n periaate** the principle of the law    **k** > (melts)

(Pronunciation note: the -i- of **lai|n** is quite long, as if in memory of the **k** which has been compressed.)

4.3 If preceded by **l** or **r**, single **k** either compresses to nothing:

**härkä** ox    **härä|n häntä** the tail of the ox    **k** > **0**

4.4 or (if followed by **e**) to **j**:

**solki** buckle    **sol|je|n hinta** the price of the buckle    **k** > **j**

5.1 A **t** preceded by a vowel compresses to **d**:

**koti** home    **kodi|n kalusto** the furniture of the home    **t** > **d**

5.2 Preceded by an **l** or **r**, compressed **t** assimilates to those consonants:

<b>kulta</b> gold	<b>kulla n hinta</b> the price of gold	<b>lt</b> > <b>ll</b>
<b>parta</b> beard	<b>parra n ajelu</b> the shaving of (one's) beard	<b>rt</b> > <b>rr</b>

## Exercise 7b

Practise compressing consonants by forming the genitive of these nouns. Remember: only **p**, **t**, and **k** are affected!



- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 tukka 'hair'           | 8 keitto 'soup'           |
| 2 silta 'bridge'         | 9 kenkä 'shoe'            |
| 3 arkki 'sheet of paper' | 10 Saksa 'Germany'        |
| 4 tyyppi 'type'          | 11 Turku 'Turku, Åbo'     |
| 5 pöytä 'table'          | 12 paikka 'place'         |
| 6 laiva 'ship'           | 13 virta 'current, power' |
| 7 Englanti 'England'     | 14 jalka 'foot, leg'      |

## Language point



### More alternating stems: e-stems

**E**-stems are an important class of alternating stem; most are central to Finnish vocabulary. They are all bisyllabic nominals whose citation form ends in **i**, but which have **e** in the genitive singular. This kind of

alternating stem is more difficult to spot than the **ranskalainen** type because there are plenty of imposters, i.e. bisyllabic nominals with citation forms ending in **i** which have **i** in the genitive singular. Compare these three pairs of nominals:

	<i>Non-alternating</i>	<i>Alternating (e-stems)</i>
sN	<b>rivi</b> row	<b>kivi</b> stone
sG	<b>rivi n</b>	<b>kive n</b>
sN	<b>torvi</b> horn	<b>järvi</b> lake
sG	<b>torvi n</b>	<b>järve n</b>
sN	<b>tuoli</b> chair	<b>nuoli</b> arrow
sG	<b>tuoli n</b>	<b>nuole n</b>

From a citation form in final **i** you cannot be sure whether a nominal is an **e**-stem or not, so brute memorization is in order. When you learn a new nominal, you should make at least a mental note of its genitive singular. To assist you in this, all alternating stems are clearly marked in the vocabularies in this book. **E**-stems are marked with an extra **e**; thus ‘arrow’ is listed as **nuoli e**.

*Tip:* A good rule of thumb will help, however: the older the concept expressed by the word, and the more central it is to traditional Finnish culture, the greater the chance that it will be an **e**-stem; have another look at the six examples given above. (Counterexamples exist, of course, but they are few. Among the more egregious: the word for ‘oxygen’, **happi**, is an **e**-stem, but ‘mother’, **äiti**, isn’t!)

There is one more vital complication which concerns **e**-stems. Most of them which have a citation form ending in **si** have stems ending in **te**. For example, the stem of **käsi** ‘hand’ is **käte-**; its genitive singular is therefore **käde|n**, with regular **t > d** compression; contrast non-alternating **lasi** ‘glass’ (stem: **lasi-**), with sG **lasi|n**. In the vocabularies, nouns like **käsi** will be marked with an extra **te**; thus ‘hand’ is listed as **käsi te**.

Here’s a short list of some of the most common **e**-stems and **te**-stems:



**e-stems:**

<b>nimi e</b>	name	<b>nuoli e</b>	arrow
<b>väki e</b>	people	<b>lehti e</b>	leaf, newspaper
<b>henki e</b>	spirit, life, person	<b>kivi e</b>	stone
<b>tuli e</b>	fire	<b>pilvi e</b>	cloud
<b>hetki e</b>	moment	<b>järvi e</b>	lake
<b>mieli e</b>	mind	<b>sieni e</b>	mushroom, sponge
<b>kieli e</b>	language, tongue	<b>siipi e</b>	wing
<b>ääni e</b>	voice, sound	<b>lapsi e</b>	child
<b>pieni e</b>	small	<b>kuusi e</b>	spruce
<b>suuri e</b>	great, large	<b>suomi e</b>	Finland, Finnish
<b>nuori e</b>	young		language
<b>puoli e</b>	half, side	<b>veri e</b>	blood

**te-stems:**

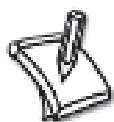
<b>vesi te</b>	water	<b>tosi te</b>	true, truth
<b>käsi te</b>	hand	<b>kansi te</b>	lid, cover
<b>uusi te</b>	new	<b>viisi te</b>	five
<b>vuosi te</b>	year	<b>kuusi te</b>	six

## Exercise 8a



Revise some of this vital vocabulary, and the genitive possessive construction, by translating these phrases (note: **alku** 'beginning', **valinta** 'selection', **maku** 'taste', **elementti** 'element', **perhonen** 'butterfly', **isku** 'beat'):

- 1 järven nimi
- 2 sienen maku
- 3 uuden vuoden alku
- 4 lapsen nimen valinta
- 5 veden ja tulen elementit
- 6 Suomen uusi lehti
- 7 uuden veren maku
- 8 perhosen siiven isku



## Exercise 8b

Practise forming the genitive singular and revise vocabulary by translating these phrases into Finnish. (Don't forget to apply consonant compression as needed!):

- |                                       |                               |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 the taste of French wine            | 6 the doctor's Italian friend |
| 2 the colour ( <b>väri</b> ) of money | 7 the history of London       |
| 3 the door of the small house         | 8 the new price of the dress  |
| 4 the house's small door              | 9 the price of a new dress    |
| 5 the capital of Sweden               | 10 the musician's beard       |



## Language point

### How to say where people are from: the elative Case (-stA)

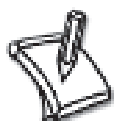
**Mi|stä maa|sta sä olet kotoisin?** What country are you *from*?  
**Mä olen Espanja|sta kotoisin.** I'm *from* Spain.

To say what country you are originally from, you use the adverb **kotoisin** 'by domicile', but you must also put the name of the country into the *elative case*.

The suffix of the elative case is **-stA**. The upper case **A** means that its vowel is susceptible to vowel harmony changes. The two consonants **st** at the beginning of this suffix mean that it is a 'tight lid' and will therefore cause consonant compression.

Let's look at a few more examples:

<b>Me olemme sveitsi stä kotoisin.</b>	We are from Switzerland.
<b>Se on Hollanni sta kotoisin.</b>	(S)he is from Holland.
(nt > nn compression)	
<b>Ne on Amerika sta kotoisin.</b>	They are from America.
(kk > k compression)	



## Exercise 9

Make up short exchanges in which people ask each other what country they're from. Use the vocabulary given in the section above about nationalities. Don't forget to harmonize your vowels and to compress your consonants, as appropriate!

# Reading



Try to understand as much of these short snippets of Finnish as you can without peeking at the glossary at the back of the book. The only new words are **ja** 'and' and **mutta** 'but'.

---

- 1 Pekka on suomalainen. Se on insinööri. Pekan ystävä, Jeanne, on pianisti. Jeanne on Belgiasta kotoisin.
  - 2 Hyvää päivää! Mä olen Jorge Rodriguez.  
Hyvää päivää! Satu Pennanen. Hauska tutustua.  
Hauska tutustua.  
Oletteko te Espanjasta kotoisin?  
Nimi on espanjalainen, mutta mä olen Amerikasta kotoisin.
-

# Unit Two

## Ei, kiitos!

No thanks!



In this unit you will learn:

- about expressing likes and preferences
- more about nominal stems
- how to say 'before' and 'after'
- how to talk about 'doing things' to things and people: expressing the direct object
- how to say 'not', and to express dislike
- basic numeracy
- another way to express possession



## Language points

### Expressing likes and preferences: the present tense of verbs

**Minä pidän kahvi|sta.** I like coffee.

**Minä pidän tee|stä.** I like tea.

To say that someone likes something, you use the verb **pitä-** and put the person or thing liked into the elative case (**-stA**), which you have already met in the preceding unit. As you would expect from having studied the verb **ole-** 'to be', the present tense forms of the verb **pitä-** vary according to person, number, and formality.

These three dimensions are summarized in the chart below. The forms within the grey shading are relatively formal, and those outside



the grey shading are relatively informal and colloquial. The dotted line separates forms with a singular subject (to its left) from those with a plural subject (to its right).

		colloquial/informal		formal
person				
1		<b>pidän</b>	<b>pidetään*</b>	<b>pidämme</b>
2	<b>pidät</b>		<b>pidätte</b>	
3	<b>pitää</b>			<b>pitävät</b>
		singular		plural

\* You will learn how to build and use forms like **pidetään** in Unit 5.

Thus 'I like coffee' is **M(in)ä pidä|n kahvi|sta**, and '(S)he likes gold' is **Hän/Se pitä|ä kulla|sta** (remember that the personal pronouns have full and cropped forms, and that **hän** is more formal than **se** when referring to people).

You should notice two things about these verb forms. One is nothing new: the **-t-** of **pitä-** is compressed to **-d-** whenever a 'tight-lid' suffix is added. The other is the form **pitää** for the third person. This form is made by lengthening the vowel at the end of the verb stem; contrast the form **on** of the verb **ole-** 'is', which you learned in the previous unit.

This lengthening is the regular ending of the third person present tense for all verbs other than **ole-**. Here are some more examples, given in colloquial style:

### (CD1; 14)

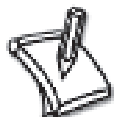
<b>se etsi i</b>	(s)he is searching	<b>ne etsi i</b>	they are searching
<b>se näke e</b>	(s)he sees	<b>ne näke e</b>	they see
<b>se kestä ä</b>	it lasts	<b>ne kestä ä</b>	they last
<b>se puhu u</b>	(s)he speaks	<b>ne puhu u</b>	they speak
<b>se sano o</b>	(s)he says	<b>ne sano o</b>	they say



Since this notion of 'lengthening of the preceding vowel' is often useful in talking about Finnish, we shall use a symbol for it: **#**, and we shall refer to all the various forms of the third person suffix (**-i**, **-e**, **-ä**, **-u**, **-o**, etc.) as **-#**.

More formal Finnish has a distinct suffix for the third person plural: **-vAt**. Thus in more formal contexts you will hear and see:

<b>hän pitä ä</b>	(s)he likes, holds	<b>he pitä vät</b>	they like, hold
<b>hän puhu u</b>	(s)he speaks, talks	<b>he puhu vat</b>	they speak, talk
<b>hän näke e</b>	(s)he sees	<b>he näke vät</b>	they see



## Exercise 1

Here are the Finnish names of some things to like:

<b>kahvi</b>	coffee	<b>talvi e</b>	winter
<b>tee</b>	tea	<b>kesä</b>	summer
<b>viini</b>	wine	<b>syksy</b>	autumn
<b>viina</b>	spirits		

Now put into Finnish:

- 1 I like coffee.
- 2 Do you like tea?
- 3 She likes summer(time).
- 4 I like spirits, he likes wine.
- 5 We like Finland.



## Exercise 2

To practise some of the verb forms introduced above, put the following into Finnish. Don't forget to compress consonants as necessary!

- 1 I say
- 2 We see
- 3 Do you (polite) like Paris?
- 4 They are looking for a flat (**asunto**).
- 5 She is talking about (use **-stA**) Finland.
- 6 Do you see?

## Preferences

To state preferences such as 'I prefer coffee', you use the adverb **mieluummin** 'more gladly' with whatever verb is appropriate. So 'I prefer coffee' is **Mä juo|n mieluummin kahvia**, more closely translated 'I drink coffee more gladly'. Study these examples:

**Mä pidän televisio|sta, mutta  
mä kuuntelen mieluummin  
radio|ta.**

I like television, but I prefer  
to listen to the radio.

**Ne pitää vede|stä, mutta ne  
juo mieluummin viini|ä.**

They like water, but they  
prefer to drink wine.

You'll learn more about comparative adverbs in Unit 11.

## Exercise 3

State your own preferences among the activities listed. Don't worry about the endings on the things drunk, eaten, and watched; these are explained later on in this unit (direct objects).



Model: **Mä pidän ranska|sta, mutta mä puhun mieluummin  
ruotsi|a.** I like French, but I prefer speaking Swedish.

- 1 drinking (**juo**-) water or milk (**maito|a**).
- 2 eating (**syö**-) fish or cheese (**juusto|a**).
- 3 watching (**katsele**-) television (**televisio|ta**) or listening to the radio (**radio|ta**).
- 4 speaking English or Finnish.
- 5 listening to the clarinet (**klarinetti|a**) or the piano (**piano|a**).

## Language point



### **More on alternating stems: X-stems and Q-stems**

The capital of Finland is **Helsinki**, and the Finnish word for 'tyre' is **renkas**. Now have a look at these two words in their genitive forms:

<b>Helsingi n historia</b>	the history of Helsinki
<b>renkaa n hinta</b>	the price of a tyre

X-stems (or: it seems to end in **s**, but ...)

In the previous unit you saw how the consonants of many Finnish words become compressed when certain suffixes are added, for example, the **nk** of **Helsinki** becomes **ng** when the 'tight-lid' suffix **-n** is added: **Helsingi|n** 'of Helsinki; Helsinki's'.

But a noun like **rengas** ‘tyre’, whose stem ends in a consonant, is different. The **-ng-** in this stem is *already compressed*, because the **s** at the end of the stem acts like a ‘tight lid’. When you add a ‘tight-lid’ suffix to such a stem, the **s** changes to the vowel-copier **#**, yielding the long vowel sequence (**aX > a# >**) **aa**, and since this **aa** provides more vowel space at the end of the stem, there is room for the **ng** to ‘decompress’ into its plain state **nk**. The genitive singular is therefore **renkaa|n**, and the elative (‘out of the/a tyre’) is **renkaa|sta**. (Some descriptions of Finnish call this ‘reverse gradation’, but this is a misleading term. From the point of view of the sounds that are alternating, there is nothing ‘reverse’ about it: we have compressed versus uncompressed sounds in precisely the same environments.)

The alternation of **s** with **#** is characteristic of a large number of nominal stems. We shall use the letter **X** to refer to the alternation **s/#** and shall refer to stems of this kind as **X-stems**. To save space and time in the vocabularies of each unit, we shall write **renkaX** instead of spelling out both the citation form **rengas** and the genitive singular **renkaa|n**.



**(CD1; 15)**

Here are a few more examples, with the citation and genitive singular forms listed together for you to compare. In each instance, the compressed consonants are in *italics*:

English	comb	tooth	sun	king	war	slow
sN	<b>kampa</b>	<b>hammas</b>	<b>aurinko</b>	<b>kuninga s</b>	<b>sota</b>	<b>hidas</b>
sG	<b>kamma n</b>	<b>hampaa n</b>	<b>auringo n</b>	<b>kuninkaa n</b>	<b>soda n</b>	<b>hitaa n</b>
Stem	<b>kampa</b>	<b>hampaX</b>	<b>aurinko</b>	<b>kuninkaX</b>	<b>sota</b>	<b>hitaX</b>

Here are a few more very common **X-stems**:

<b>patsaX</b>	statue
<b>sairaX</b>	ill
<b>vieraX</b>	guest; visitor
<b>kalliX</b>	expensive (and so <b>kallis</b> , genitive <b>kallii n</b> )
<b>kauniX</b>	beautiful
<b>lounaX</b>	lunch; southwest
<b>opaX</b>	guidebook (and so <b>opas</b> , genitive <b>oppaa n</b> )
<b>rakkaX</b>	dear ( <b>rakas</b> , <b>rakkaa n</b> )
<b>rikkaX</b>	rich ( <b>rikas</b> , <b>rikkaa n</b> )
<b>valmiX</b>	ready
<b>tehtaX</b>	factory ( <b>tehdas</b> , <b>tehtaa n</b> )
<b>raskaX</b>	difficult; heavy; pregnant

*Note on verbs:* Many verbs, too, end in **X**; this **X** behaves slightly differently from the **X** found in nouns and adjectives. At this point you need only know that to the left of all of the suffixes you have met so far, this **X** is read as **A**. Thus from the stem **haluX**- ‘wants’ you may form ‘I want’: **mä halua|n**.

## Q-stems (or: it seems to end in **e**, but ...) (CD1; 16)



There is also a large set of Finnish words which – like **X**-stems – have a stem which ends in a ‘tight lid’, but which – unlike **X**-stems, which end in **s** in the citation form – are written as if they ended in the vowel **e**. If you listen carefully, you will hear most Finns pronounce a consonant (glottal stop, in fact; see p. 4) after this **e**. We shall call these stems **Q**-stems, and write their final ‘tight lid’ as **Q** when giving their stems in the vocabularies.

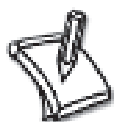
When a ‘tight-lid’ suffix is added, the sequence **eQ** is read as **ee**. Consonant compression and decompression occur exactly as in the **X**-stems. Compare the forms (once again, compressed consonants are in italics):

English	shore	wrist	custom	need	war	rain
<b>sN</b>	<b>ranta</b>	<b>ranne</b>	<b>tapa</b>	<b>tarve</b>	<b>sota</b>	<b>sade</b>
<b>sG</b>	<b>ranna n</b>	<b>rantee n</b>	<b>tava n</b>	<b>tarpee n</b>	<b>soda n</b>	<b>satee n</b>
Stem	<b>ranta</b>	<b>ranteQ</b>	<b>tapa</b>	<b>tarpeQ</b>	<b>sota</b>	<b>sateQ</b>

Here are a few more very common **Q**-stems:

<b>huoneQ</b>	room
<b>kirjeQ</b>	letter
<b>aineQ</b>	substance; essay
<b>esineQ</b>	object
<b>koneQ</b>	machine
<b>kappaleQ</b>	unit
<b>virheQ</b>	mistake
<b>osoitteQ</b>	address (and so, perfectly regularly, citation form <b>osoite</b> , genitive <b>osoitteen n</b> )
<b>alueQ</b>	region
<b>raiteQ</b>	(and so: <b>raide</b> , <b>raiteen n</b> ) railroad track





## Exercise 4a

To say 'after the lesson' you put the noun that means 'lesson', **tunti**, into the genitive and put the word for 'after', **jälkeen**, after it: thus **tunni|n jälkeen**. Develop your facility for Finnish stem-types while you learn how to say:

- |                   |                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 after the sauna | ( <b>sauna</b> )                      |
| 2 after the war   | ( <b>sota</b> )                       |
| 3 after breakfast | ( <b>aamiainen</b> )                  |
| 4 after the exam  | ( <b>koe</b> , stem: <b>kokeQ-</b> )  |
| 5 after the break | ( <b>tauko</b> )                      |
| 6 after the rain  | ( <b>sade</b> , stem: <b>sateQ-</b> ) |



## Exercise 4b

Now translate these similar Finnish phrases, built not only with **jälkeen** but also with **takana** 'behind', **takia** 'because of', **alla** 'under', and **sijaan** 'instead (of)'.

Model:

<b>pilven takana</b>	behind a cloud
<b>renkaan sijaan</b>	instead of a tyre

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Helsingin sijaan      | 5 kokeen sijaan           |
| 2 veden alla            | 6 tarpeen takana          |
| 3 uuden tehtaan takana  | 7 kauniin patsaan alla    |
| 4 sairaan hampaan takia | 8 kalliin lounaan jälkeen |



## Language points

### Direct objects

**Mä maksan lasku|n.** I'll pay *the bill*.

**Mä juon kahvi|a.** I'll drink *some coffee*.

To say things like 'I'll pay the bill' or 'I'll drink some coffee' in Finnish, you have to know how to form the *direct object* (see the Glossary of grammatical terms at the back of this book if you're feeling shaky about what that might be). In the first example, you put the word for 'bill', **lasku**, into the genitive: **lasku|n**.

But the genitive will not do for the second example. This is because ‘some coffee’ refers to a vague amount of coffee, not a known, specific, finite, definite portion; and it is definite direct objects that the genitive marks. Thus **Mä juon kahvi|n** would mean ‘I’ll drink the coffee’, where a specific portion – say, a particular cup of coffee, perhaps even already poured – is meant.

To express ‘some coffee’ you need to use the *partitive case*. To form this, see the next section.

## How to form the (singular) partitive

This case form is vital, but building it can be a bit complicated, so it’s a good idea to start practising early. This section begins with a survey of ways in which the partitive is formed. You should read these through with the aim of getting the general picture; do *not* bother trying to memorize them. The section to follow – ‘using the partitive’ – is a brief introduction to some of the uses of the partitive. Once you’ve read that through to the end, do Exercises 6 and 7 by referring back to this section.

We may think of the suffix of the partitive singular as **-TA**, with **A** standing, as always, for **a** and **ä** according to vowel harmony and with upper case **T** standing for a **t** which is idiosyncratic in that it alternates with zero. The suffix thus has two subtypes, **-tA** and **-A**.

You can tell which subtype of this suffix to add, **-tA** or **-A**, by knowing the stem of the nominal to which you want to attach it.

The suffix is **-tA** if the stem ends in a long vowel or diphthong:

<i>sN</i>	<i>sP</i>	<i>English</i>
<b>maa</b>	<b>maa ta</b>	earth, land
<b>kuu</b>	<b>kuu ta</b>	moon
<b>tie</b>	<b>tie tä</b>	road, way
<b>vapaa</b>	<b>vapaa ta</b>	free
<b>tienoo</b>	<b>tienoo ta</b>	region
<b>paluu</b>	<b>paluu ta</b>	return
<b>filee</b>	<b>filee tä</b>	fillet
<b>revvy</b>	<b>revvy tä</b>	(stage) review
<b>korkea</b>	<b>korkea ta</b>	high

Stems that end in any single vowel other than **e** take **-A**:

<b>kala</b>	<b>kala a</b>	fish
<b>kesä</b>	<b>kesä ä</b>	summer
<b>talo</b>	<b>talo a</b>	house
<b>sähkö</b>	<b>sähkö ä</b>	electricity
<b>katu</b>	<b>katu a</b>	street
<b>levy</b>	<b>levy ä</b>	record, disk
<b>kasetti</b>	<b>kasetti a</b>	cassette

If a nominal stem ends in **e** (really **e**, and not **Q**! Remember **Q**-stems, discussed above), you must examine the consonant to the left of this **e** in order to determine how to proceed:

- 1 If that consonant is a single dental consonant (**s**, **t**, **T**, **n**, **l**, or **r**) preceded by a vowel or by any of the consonants **n**, **l**, or **r**, delete the final **e** and add **-tA**. We'll refer to such stems as *dental stems*.
- 2 Otherwise just add **-A**, leaving the stem-final **e** intact.



### (CD1; 17)

You can revise the nominative and genitive as you compare them with the partitive singular forms of the following nominals (compressed consonants in italics):

<i>Stem</i>	<b>vete</b>	<b>kiele</b>	<b>suure</b>	<b>suomalaise</b>	<b>ääne</b>	<b>kante</b>	<b>purte</b>
sN	<b>vesi</b>	<b>kieli</b>	<b>suuri</b>	<b>suomalainen</b>	<b>ääni</b>	<b>kansi</b>	<b>pursi</b>
sG	<b>vede n</b>	<b>kiele n</b>	<b>suure n</b>	<b>suomalaise n</b>	<b>ääne n</b>	<b>kanne n</b>	<b>purte n</b>
sP	<b>vet tä</b>	<b>kiel tä</b>	<b>suur ta</b>	<b>suomalais ta</b>	<b>ään tä</b>	<b>kant ta</b>	<b>purt ta</b>
<i>English</i>	water	language	great	Finnish (adj)	voice	lid, cover	sail

<i>Stem</i>	<b>oluTe</b>	<b>lahte</b>	<b>Suome</b>	<b>onne</b>	<b>järve</b>
sN	<b>olut</b>	<b>lahti</b>	<b>Suomi</b>	<b>onni</b>	<b>järvi</b>
sG	<b>olue n</b>	<b>lahde n</b>	<b>Suome n</b>	<b>onne n</b>	<b>järve n</b>
sP	<b>olut ta</b>	<b>lahte a</b>	<b>Suome a</b>	<b>onne a</b>	<b>järve ä</b>
<i>English</i>	beer	bay	Finland	joy	lake

If the stem ends in a consonant, the suffix is **-tA**; **Q** is read as **t** and **X** is read as **s**:

<i>Stem</i>	<i><b>kirjeQ</b></i>	<i><b>sateQ</b></i>	<i><b>sairaX</b></i>	<i><b>hampaX</b></i>
sN	<b>kirje</b>	<b>sade</b>	<b>sairas</b>	<b>hammas</b>
sG	<b>kirjee n</b>	<b>satee n</b>	<b>sairaa n</b>	<b>hampaa n</b>
sP	<b>kirjet tä</b>	<b>sadet tä</b>	<b>sairas ta</b>	<b>hammas ta</b>
<i>English</i>	letter	rain	ill	tooth

This treatment of the formation of the partitive leaves quite a few loose ends, but these will be handled individually. For example, **lohi** e ‘salmon’ acts like a dental stem (**loh|ta**), and **lumi** e ‘snow’ not only acts like a dental stem but its **m** changes to **n** (**lun|ta**). All such deviations will be noted in the vocabulary lists.

Finally, note also that a few frequently used stems have a **T** like that of the partitive in that it alternates with zero: the most important ones are **oluTe**, **olut** ‘beer’, **ohuTe**, **ohut** ‘thin’, **lyhyTe**, **lyhyt** ‘short’, and **kevytTe**, **kevyt** ‘light’, with genitives singular **ohue|n**, **lyhye|n**, **kevye|n**.

## Exercise 5

To say ‘before the lesson’ you put the word **ennen** before the noun that means ‘lesson’, **tunti**, and you put **tunti** in the partitive, thus **ennen tunti|a**. Practise your partitives while you learn how to say (if you have forgotten any of the vocabulary, look back at Exercise 4a):



- 1 before the sauna
- 2 before the war
- 3 before breakfast
- 4 before the exam
- 5 before the break

## Language point



### Using the partitive

The partitive has an enormous range of uses, but they may all be placed under the headings incompleteness, vagueness, and negativity. What follows here is a checklist of the more important instances of these headings; further discussion will follow in appropriate sections,

as indicated. For now, just read through this section to get a general idea of what the partitive is for.

The partitive singular marks:

- 1 The greater bulk of something of which only a part is specified, e.g. **lasi olut|ta** 'a glass of beer', **kuudes helmikuu|ta** 'the sixth of February', **missä Helsinki|ä päin** 'whereabouts in Helsinki?', **vähäksi aika|a** 'for a little while'. Here we may also place **kolme poika|a** 'three boys', more closely something more like 'a three-some of boy'. Note the word order of this type of construction, with the word which is in the partitive placed second. For details, see Unit 7 (numerals) and Unit 9 (time expressions).
- 2 The domain of which most prepositions (and some postpositions) are the specific: you have already met **ennen**, as in **ennen sota|a** 'before the war'; other examples are **ilman apu|a** 'without assistance', **tie|tä pitkin** 'along the road'. For more on prepositions and postpositions see Unit 9.
- 3 The outdone member of a comparison: **puu|ta kovempi** 'harder than wood', **minu|a vanhempi** 'older than me'. In this construction the word in the partitive comes first; you'll learn more in Unit 8.
- 4 An indefinite quantity or entity, e.g. **leipä|ä** '(some) bread', contrast sN **leipä** 'the bread; bread (in general); a(n entire) loaf of bread'.
- 5 Any direct object which is not fully acted upon, even if it is itself a definite quantity and entity. Thus **Mä syön leipä|ä** can mean not only 'I'm eating some bread' but also 'I'm eating the loaf (but haven't finished)'. Here belong activities which have no specific goal or clear outcome, as in **Se rakastaa Irma|a** '(S)he loves Irma', **Se raapii pää|tään** 'He scratches his head', **Mä ajan auto|a** 'I'll drive the car'. Contrast **Mä ajan auto|n korjaamoon** 'I'll drive the car into the repair shop', an activity with a clear goal and an outcome whose success can be assessed.
- 6 Any direct object whatsoever, if the verb is negated: **Mä en syö| leipä|ä** 'I won't eat any bread, I won't eat the bread', **Se ei maksa| lasku|a** '(S)he won't pay the bill'.
- 7 The partitive is also used to mark indeterminacy in an intransitive *subject*, provided it is of an indefinite quantity or the verb is negated, for example, **Kuussa on vet|tä** 'There is water on the moon', **Meillä ei ole auto|a** 'We don't have a car'. You'll learn more about these kinds of sentence later on in this unit.



## Exercise 6



You can't speak an entire language, you can only speak parts of it. So it is not surprising that the direct object of 'I speak Finnish' is put into the partitive: **Mä puhun suome|a**.

You have already met the names of many languages in Unit 1: they are usually identical (but note that they are not capitalized) to the names of the countries in which they are spoken by the majority. Complete these sentences by supplying the partitive form of the appropriate language name.

- 1 András on unkarilainen; se puhuu \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Irma on Italiasta kotoisin; se puhuu \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Poliitikko on ruotsalainen; se puhuu \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 Poliisi on ranskalainen; se puhuu \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 Victor on Hollannista kotoisin; se puhuu \_\_\_\_\_.

## Exercise 7



Since the partitive marks direct objects which are not completely affected, one way to express the idea that someone is still in the middle of doing something is to put the direct object in the partitive. Thus: **Heikki maksaa lasku|a**. 'Heikki is paying the bill (right now; he hasn't finished yet)', or **Anna lukee lehte|ä** 'Anna is reading the newspaper'.

Use the following vocabulary to build similar sentences with incompletely affected direct objects:

Subjects: **Jari, Anna, Jussi, Satu**

Verbs:

<b>katso-</b>	look at, watch	<b>etsi-</b>	look for
<b>pese-</b>	wash	<b>maalaX-</b>	paint
<b>luke-</b>	read	<b>kirjoitta-</b>	write
<b>kuuntele-</b>	listen to	<b>syö-</b>	eat

Direct objects:

<b>omena</b>	apple	<b>kynä</b>	pen
<b>lattia</b>	floor	<b>lehti e</b>	newspaper
<b>kirja</b>	book	<b>kasetti</b>	cassette
<b>postikortti</b>	postcard	<b>levy</b>	record; disk
<b>televisio</b>	television	<b>talo</b>	house
<b>taulu</b>	blackboard	<b>puuro</b>	porridge



## Language point

### How to say 'not': the negative verb and its associates

At the beginning of this unit you learned that 'I like coffee' is **Mä pidän kahvista**. But what if you don't? You will want to be able to say 'I don't like coffee', and for this you need to know how to negate verbs in Finnish.

There are two parts. The first is the negative verb, **e-**; it is to this little stem that you attach the personal endings. Here is the paradigm for colloquial Finnish:

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
1	<b>e n</b>	<b>e mme</b>
2	<b>e t</b>	<b>e tte</b>
3		<b>ei</b>

Once again, one form serves for both singular and plural in the third person (more formal Finnish has plural **ei|vät**). Just the word **ei** on its own is used to mean 'no', as in **Ei, kiitos** 'No, thanks'.

The second part is called the *connegative*. To form this, you add the suffix **-Q** to whatever verb you want to negate. So, the connegative of **pitä-** is **pidä** (with compression **t > d** because of the 'tight-lid' suffix **-Q**; compare the **d** of **sade** 'rain' in the section on **Q**-stems, above).

Put the two parts together and you have a negated verb, for example: **Mä en pidä kahvista**. 'I don't like coffee.' Such a statement is a bit blunt, so it is best to preface it with something like **Anteeksi, mutta . . .** 'Sorry, but . . .', or **Valitettavasti** 'Unfortunately'.

*Pronunciation note:* In the speech of most Finns, the **Q** at the end of the connegative copies any consonant to its right. It is as if we were to write **Mä en pidäk kahvista**; from time to time, as a reminder of this pronunciation, we shall use superscript consonants in this book, like this: **Mä en pidä<sup>k</sup> kahvista**.

Now have a look at these short dialogues:

**Juotko sä viiniä?**

**Ei, kiitos. Valitettavasti mä en pidä viinistä.**

Will you have (i.e. drink) some wine?  
No, thanks. Unfortunately I don't like wine.

**Otatko kahvia?**

**Ei, kiitos. Mä juon mieluummin teetä.**

Will you have (i.e. take) some coffee?  
No, thanks. I'd rather have some tea.

## Exercise 8

You're now ready to write some short dialogues of your own, in which liked and disliked beverages and foods are offered and declined. Be as polite as you can by using **valitettavasti**, **anteeksi**, and **kiitos**.



## Language points



### The cardinal numerals and how to use them

(CD1; 18)

The basic cardinal numerals are:



- 1 **yksi** (stem: **yhte-**)
- 2 **kaksi** (stem: **kahte-**)
- 3 **kolme** (stem: **kolme-**)
- 4 **neljä**
- 5 **viisi** *te*
- 6 **kuusi** *te*
- 7 **seitsemän** (stem: **seitsemä-**)
- 8 **kahdeksan** (stem: **kahdeksa-**)
- 9 **yhdeksän** (stem: **yhdeksä-**)
- 10 **kymmenen** (stem: **kymmene-**)
- 100 **sata**
- 1000 **tuhat** (stem: **tuhante-**; sG **tuhanne**|n, sP **tuhat**|ta)

Notice the rather unexpected forms of the stems of the words for 'one', 'two', 'seven' to 'ten', and the partitive of 'thousand'.

The teens are made by adding **+toista** to the names of the integers: thus 'eleven' is **yksitoista** and 'eighteen' is **kahdeksantoista**.

To use the numerals with nouns, you put the noun which refers to the thing counted into the partitive singular. For example:



(CD1; 19)

<b>kaksi talo a</b>	two houses
<b>kolme tyttö ä</b>	three girls
<b>neljä nime ä</b>	four names
<b>viisi suomalais ta</b>	five Finns

‘Twenty’ is **kaksi|kymmentä**, i.e. ‘two tens’: ‘two’ plus the partitive of **kymmenen** ‘ten’; note that the phrase is written together. Similarly:

<b>kolme kymmentä viisi</b>	thirty-five
<b>neljä kymmentä seitsemän</b>	forty-seven
<b>viisi sataa kuusi</b>	506
<b>kahdeksan sataa neljä toista</b>	814
<b>tuhat yhdeksän sataa kolme kymmentä seitsemän</b>	1937

You’ll learn more about numerals in Units 7 and 11.

## More on possession: how to say ‘I have a cat’

You have already learned that to say something like ‘Irma’s cat’ in Finnish you must put the owner, Irma, into the genitive case: **Irma|n kissa**. In this section we shall be looking at how Finns express things like ‘Irma has a cat’.

From an English perspective it’s not at all straightforward, since Finnish doesn’t have a verb ‘to have’. What Finnish speakers do instead is this. They simply say that the possession ‘is’, and put the possessor into the adessive case (suffix **-lla**, attached just like the relative **-sta**). So ‘Irma has a cat’ is **Irma|lla on kissa**.

Here are some more examples:

<b>Lapse lla on koira.</b>	The child has a dog. ( <b>lapsi</b> e ‘child’; <b>koira</b> ‘dog’)
<b>Kaisa lla ei ole koira a.</b>	Kaisa doesn’t have a dog.
<b>Mei llä on aika a.</b>	We have time.
<b>Onko su lla aika a?</b>	Do you have time?
<b>Häne llä ei ole lasi a.</b>	(S)he doesn’t have a glass.
<b>Peka lla ei ole raha a.</b>	Pekka hasn’t any money.
<b>Minu lla on kaksi sisko a.</b>	I have two sisters.

Notice the adessive forms of the personal pronouns: **mei|llä** for the first person plural (and similarly, **tei|llä** and **hei|llä** for the second and third persons plural); and **minu|lla** for the first person singular (cropped

form: **mu|lla**) and **sinu|lla** (**su|lla**) for the second person singular. The (formal) third person singular pronoun **hän** is a dental stem: **häne|llä**. Informal **se** and **ne** have the adessives **si|llä** and **nii|llä**.

If both possessor and possession are thought of as concrete and inanimate, the possessor goes into the *inessive* case. This is formed with the suffix **-ssa**, which you attach just like the elative **-sta**.

<b>Tä ssä ruua ssa ei ole makua.</b>	This food has no flavour.
<b>Tä ssä pöydä ssä on vain kolme jalkaa.</b>	This table has only three legs.
<b>Kiele ssä on paljon tuntohermoja.</b>	The tongue has a lot of sensory nerves.

Contrast:

<b>Mikä ero on sano i lla 'järvi' ja 'lampi'?</b>	What difference do the words 'järvi' and 'lampi' have? (i.e. What's the difference between 'järvi' and 'lampi'?)
<b>Miksi si llä tehtaa lla on se nimi?</b>	'Why does the factory have that name?'

The inessive is also used for personal and abstract, rather than physical and concrete, attributes, as in **Häne|ssä on tyyli** '(S)he's got style' or **Sinu|ssa ei ole mikään vikaa** 'There's nothing wrong with you'. Contrast **Häne|llä on jotain outoa** '(S)he has something strange' with **Häne|ssä on jotain outoa** 'There's something strange about her/him'.

Lastly, when personal pronouns are the possession, they take the suffix **-t**, for example:

<b>Su lla on aina minu t.</b>	You'll always have me.
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You will learn more about this **-t** suffix in Unit 5.

## Exercise 9

This exercise is designed to help you to acquire facility in discussing possession. The task is to convert, say, 'Irma's cat is white' to 'Irma has a white cat' (or the reverse).



Model: **Irman kissa on valkoinen. → Irmalla on valkoinen kissa.**

- 1 Presidentin auto on iso.
- 2 Onks meillä tummaa olutta?



- 3 Talossa on vihreä ovi.
- 4 Baarimikon vaimo on ruotsalainen.
- 5 Onko Teillä pieni asunto?
- 6 Szilvian ääni on kaunis.



**(CD1; 20)**

These further examples are chiefly for later reference, but don't be afraid to have a look at them now:

<b>Minu lla on parempi ajatus.</b>	I have a better idea.
<b>Minu lla on lippu j a.</b>	I have some tickets.
<b>Minu lla on lipu t.</b>	I have the tickets.
<b>Lipu t on minu lla.</b>	/ have the tickets.
<b>Mu lla on sulle jo tain kiinnostava a.</b>	I have something interesting for you.
<b>Heil lä ei ole mi tään sanomis ta.</b>	They have nothing to say.
<b>Kuinka mon ta las ta tei llä on?</b>	How many children do you have?
<b>Rouva Salmise lla on suku a Ruotsissa.</b>	Mrs Salminen has family in Sweden.
<b>Häne llä on koko yö edessään.</b>	(S)he has the whole night ahead of him/her.
<b>Onko tei llä aivan oma sauna?</b>	Do you have your very own sauna?
<b>Jokaise lla on oma makunsa.</b>	Everyone has his/her own taste.
<b>Kaike lla on rajansa.</b>	Everything has its limits.
<b>Onks su lla mun osoitteeni?</b>	Do you have my address?
<b>Eikö häne llä ole velikin?</b>	Doesn't (s)he have a brother, as well?
<b>Onko tei llä kaikki muu t huonekalu t?</b>	Do you have all the rest of the furniture?
<b>Haluan että se on jo llaku lla.</b>	I want someone to have it.
<b>Häne llä on veitsi kädessään.</b>	(S)he has a knife in his/her hand.
<b>Sen miehe llä on suu kuin kala lla.</b>	Her husband has a mouth like a fish (has).



Bus tickets

## EXERCISE 10a

Translate:

- 1 Hänellä on paljon ('a lot') aikaa.
- 2 Meillä on vähän ('a little') aikaa.
- 3 Hänellä ei ole rahaa ('money').
- 4 Tässä pöydässä ei ole tilaa ('space, room').
- 5 Minulla on viisi koiraa.
- 6 Onks sulla suosikkibändiä ('favourite band')?
- 7 Suomessa on paljon puuta ('wood').

## Exercise 10b

Say in Finnish:

- 1 (S)he has a lot of money.
- 2 Pekka has lots of time.
- 3 We have family (use **suku** 'some kin') in Lappi.

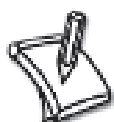
- 4 Do you have a dog?
- 5 I have seven dogs.
- 6 I have no favourite band.
- 7 There's room (space) in this room.



## Exercise 11

Make up three sentences naming things you do and don't have. Use the **-IIA ole-** construction.

Model: **Minulla ei ole omaa asuntoa, mutta mulla on rahaa pankissa.**



## Exercise 12

Study this model:

**Minulla on radio, mutta siinä ei ole kelloa.**

I have a radio, but it doesn't have a clock/there's no clock in it.

The form **siinä** is the inessive of **se**. Use this to make up similar sentences on the model above. Take pairs from among the following words:

<b>auto</b>	car	<b>kuppi</b>	cup
<b>raha</b>	money	<b>lompakko</b>	billfold, wallet
<b>kahvi</b>	coffee	<b>musteQ</b>	ink
<b>postimerkki</b>	stamp	<b>benssiini</b>	petrol
<b>kynä</b>	pen	<b>kuori e</b>	envelope



## Language point

### **The two basic constituent orders**

In Unit 1, you met one basic constituent order for Finnish declarative clauses, namely subject – verb – rest of the clause, as in **Minä olen englantilainen** 'I am English', **Kahvi on kylmää** 'The coffee is cold'. Direct objects fit in the rest-of-the-clause slot, e.g. **Minä syön voileivän** 'I'll eat a sandwich', **Minä syön voileipää** 'I'm eating a/the sandwich'. Polar questions (inviting an affirmative or negative response) invert the subject and verb (**Onko kahvi kylmää?** 'Is the coffee cold?') but

content questions (asking things like **kuka** ‘who’, **mikä** ‘what’, **milloin** ‘when’, **missä** ‘where’, **kuinka** ‘how’, **miksi** ‘why’) leave the basic subject-verb order unchanged (**Miksi kahvi on kuumaa?** ‘Why is the coffee cold?’).

In this unit, you have met the other basic Finnish constituent order, namely X – verb – subject, as in **M(in)u|lla on kaksi kissaa** ‘I have two cats’. The ‘X’ here can be any word or expression that is not the verb; it usually refers to a person, place, or time. This order is neutral and normal not only in clauses that express ownership, but also in any context in which the presence of the subject at that place and time is more important than what the subject is doing; this is why the most common verb in this kind of clause is the verb ‘to be’ (**on, ole-**), used in the sense ‘exists, there is’ as in **Lattialla on vettä** ‘There’s water on the floor’. You’ll learn more about these constructions in Units 4 and 6.



# FINNISH VOCABULARY



# BASIC CONCEPTS. PART 1

## 1. Pronouns

I, me	<b>minä</b>	[mijnæ]
you	<b>sinä</b>	[sijnæ]
he	<b>hän</b>	[hæn]
she	<b>hän</b>	[hæn]
it	<b>se</b>	[se]
we	<b>me</b>	[me]
you (to a group)	<b>te</b>	[te]
they	<b>he</b>	[he]

## 2. Greetings. Salutations. Farewells

Hello! (fam.)	<b>Hei!</b>	[hej]
Hello! (form.)	<b>Hei!</b>	[hej]
Good morning!	<b>Hyvää huomenta!</b>	[hyuæ: huomenta]
Good afternoon!	<b>Hyvää päivää!</b>	[hyuæ: pæjuæ:]
Good evening!	<b>Hyvää iltaa!</b>	[hyuæ: ilta:]
to say hello	<b>tervehtiä</b>	[teruehtiæ]
Hi! (hello)	<b>Moi!</b>	[moj]



greeting (n)	<b>terve</b>	[terue]
to greet (vt)	<b>tervehtiä</b>	[teruehtiæ]
How are you?	<b>Mitä kuuluu?</b>	[mitæ ku:lu:]
What's new?	<b>Mitä on uutta?</b>	[mitæ on u:ttɑ]
Bye-Bye! Goodbye!	<b>Näkemiin!</b>	[nækemi:in]
See you soon!	<b>Pikaisiin näkemiin!</b>	[pikɑjsi:in nækemi:in]
Farewell!	<b>Hyvästi!</b>	[hyuæsti]
to say goodbye	<b>hyvästellä</b>	[hyuæsteɫæ]
So long!	<b>Hei hei!</b>	[hej hej]
Thank you!	<b>Kiitos!</b>	[ki:itos]
Thank you very much!	<b>Paljon kiitoksia!</b>	[pal <sup>h</sup> øn ki:itoksia]
You're welcome	<b>Ole hyvä</b>	[ole hyuæ]
Don't mention it!	<b>Ei kestä kiittää</b>	[ej kestæ ki:ittæ:]
It was nothing	<b>Ei kestä</b>	[ej kestæ]
Excuse me!	<b>Anteeksi!</b>	[ante:ksi]
to excuse (forgive)	<b>antaa anteeksi</b>	[anta: ante:ksi]
to apologize (vi)	<b>pyytää anteeksi</b>	[py:tæ: ante:ksi]
My apologies	<b>Pyydän anteeksi</b>	[py:dæn ante:ksi]
I'm sorry!	<b>Anteeksi!</b>	[ante:ksi]
to forgive (vt)	<b>antaa anteeksi</b>	[anta: ante:ksi]
please (adv)	<b>ole hyvä</b>	[ole hyuæ]
Don't forget!	<b>Älkää unohtako!</b>	[ælkæ: unohtako]
Certainly!	<b>Tietysti!</b>	[tietysti]

Of course not!	<b>Eipä tietenkään!</b>	[ejpæ tietenkæ:n]
Okay! (I agree)	<b>Olen samaa mieltä!</b>	[olen sama: mieltæ]
That's enough!	<b>Riittää!</b>	[ri:ittæ:]

### 3. How to address

mister, sir	<b>Herra</b>	[herra]
ma'am	<b>Rouva</b>	[rouva]
miss	<b>Neiti</b>	[nejti]
young man	<b>Nuori mies</b>	[nuorimies]
young man (little boy)	<b>Poika</b>	[pojka]
miss (little girl)	<b>Tyttö</b>	[tyttö]

### 4. Cardinal numbers. Part 1

0 zero	<b>nolla</b>	[nolla]
1 one	<b>yksi</b>	[yksi]
2 two	<b>kaksi</b>	[kaksi]
3 three	<b>kolme</b>	[kolme]
4 four	<b>neljä</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jæ]
5 five	<b>viisi</b>	[vi:isi]
6 six	<b>kuusi</b>	[ku:si]
7 seven	<b>seitsemän</b>	[sejtsemæn]
8 eight	<b>kahdeksan</b>	[kahdeksan]

9 nine	<b>yhdeksän</b>	[yhdeksæn]
10 ten	<b>kymmenen</b>	[kymmenen]
11 eleven	<b>yksitoista</b>	[yksi tojsta]
12 twelve	<b>kaksitoista</b>	[kaksi tojsta]
13 thirteen	<b>kolmetoista</b>	[kolme tojsta]
14 fourteen	<b>neljätoista</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jæ tojsta]
15 fifteen	<b>viisitoista</b>	[ui:isi tojsta]
16 sixteen	<b>kuusitoista</b>	[ku:si tojsta]
17 seventeen	<b>seitsemätoista</b>	[sejtsemæn tojsta]
18 eighteen	<b>kahdeksantoista</b>	[kahdeksan tojsta]
19 nineteen	<b>yhdeksäntoista</b>	[yhdeksæn tojsta]
20 twenty	<b>kaksikymmentä</b>	[kaksi kymmentæ]
21 twenty-one	<b>kaksikymmentäyksi</b>	[kaksi kymmentæ yksi]
22 twenty-two	<b>kaksikymmentäkaksi</b>	[kaksi kymmentæ kaksi]
23 twenty-three	<b>kaksikymmentäkolme</b>	[kaksi kymmentæ kolme]
30 thirty	<b>kolmekymmentä</b>	[kolme kymmentæ]
31 thirty-one	<b>kolmekymmentäyksi</b>	[kolme kymmentæ yksi]
32 thirty-two	<b>kolmekymmentäkaksi</b>	[kolme kymmentæ kaksi]
33 thirty-three	<b>kolmekymmentäkolme</b>	[kolme kymmentæ kolme]
40 forty	<b>neljäkymmentä</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jæ kymmentæ]

41 forty-one	<b>neljäkymmentäyksi</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jæ kymmentæ yksi]
42 forty-two	<b>neljäkymmentäkaksi</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jæ kymmentæ kaksi]
43 forty-three	<b>neljäkymmentäkolme</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jæ kymmentæ kolme]
50 fifty	<b>viisikymmentä</b>	[ui:isi kymmentæ]
51 fifty-one	<b>viisikymmentäyksi</b>	[ui:isi kymmentæ yksi]
52 fifty-two	<b>viisikymmentäkaksi</b>	[ui:isi kymmentæ kaksi]
53 fifty-three	<b>viisikymmentäkolme</b>	[ui:isi kymmentæ kolme]
60 sixty	<b>kuusikymmentä</b>	[ku:si kymmentæ]
61 sixty-one	<b>kuusikymmentäyksi</b>	[ku:si kymmentæ yksi]
62 sixty-two	<b>kuusikymmentäkaksi</b>	[ku:si kymmentæ kaksi]
63 sixty-three	<b>kuusikymmentäkolme</b>	[ku:si kymmentæ kolme]
70 seventy	<b>seitsemänkymmentä</b>	[sejtsemæn kymmentæ]
71 seventy-one	<b>seitsemänkymmentäyksi</b>	[sejtsemæn kymmentæ yksi]
72 seventy-two	<b>seitsemänkymmentäkaksi</b>	[sejtsemæn kymmentæ kaksi]
73 seventy-three	<b>seitsemänkymmentäkolme</b>	[sejtsemæn kymmentæ kolme]

80 eighty	<b>kahdeksankymmentä</b>	[kahdeksan kymmentæ]
81 eighty-one	<b>kahdeksankymmentäyksi</b>	[kahdeksan kymmentæ yksi]
82 eighty-two	<b>kahdeksankymmentäkaksi</b>	[kahdeksan kymmentæ kaksi]
83 eighty-three	<b>kahdeksankymmentäkolme</b>	[kahdeksan kymmentæ kolme]
90 ninety	<b>yhdeksänkymmentä</b>	[yhdeksæn kymmentæ]
91 ninety-one	<b>yhdeksänkymmentäyksi</b>	[yhdeksæn kymmentæ yksi]
92 ninety-two	<b>yhdeksänkymmentäkaksi</b>	[yhdeksæn kymmentæ kaksi]
93 ninety-three	<b>yhdeksänkymmentäkolme</b>	[yhdeksæn kymmentæ kolme]

## 5. Cardinal numbers. Part 2

100 one hundred	<b>sata</b>	[sata]
200 two hundred	<b>kaksisataa</b>	[kaksi sata:]
300 three hundred	<b>kolmesataa</b>	[kolme sata:]
400 four hundred	<b>neljäisataa</b>	[nelʰjæ sata:]
500 five hundred	<b>viisisataa</b>	[vi:isi sata:]
600 six hundred	<b>kuusisataa</b>	[ku:si sata:]
700 seven hundred	<b>seitsemäsataa</b>	[sejtsemæn sata:]
800 eight hundred	<b>kahdeksansataa</b>	[kahdeksan sata:]

900 nine hundred	<b>yhdeksänsataa</b>	[yhdeksæn sata:]
1000 one thousand	<b>tuhat</b>	[tuhat]
2000 two thousand	<b>kaksituhatta</b>	[kaksi tuhatta]
3000 three thousand	<b>kolmetuhatta</b>	[kolme tuhatta]
10000 ten thousand	<b>kymmenentuhatta</b>	[kymmenen tuhatta]
one hundred thousand	<b>satatuhatta</b>	[sata tuhatta]
million	<b>miljoona</b>	[mil <sup>h</sup> ø:na]
billion	<b>miljardi</b>	[mil <sup>h</sup> jardi]

## 6. Ordinal numbers

first (adj)	<b>ensimmäinen</b>	[ensimmæjnen]
second (adj)	<b>toinen</b>	[tojnən]
third (adj)	<b>kolmas</b>	[kolmas]
fourth (adj)	<b>neljäs</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jæs]
fifth (adj)	<b>viides</b>	[ui:ides]
sixth (adj)	<b>kuudes</b>	[ku:des]
seventh (adj)	<b>seitsemäs</b>	[sejtsemæs]
eighth (adj)	<b>kahdeksas</b>	[kahdeksas]
ninth (adj)	<b>yhdeksäs</b>	[yhdeksæs]
tenth (adj)	<b>kymmenes</b>	[kymmenes]

## 7. Numbers. Fractions



fraction	<b>murtoluku</b>	[murtoluku]
one half	<b>puolet</b>	[puolet]
one third	<b>kolmannes</b>	[kolmanes]
one quarter	<b>neljännes</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jænes]
one eighth	<b>kahdeksannes</b>	[kahdeksanes]
one tenth	<b>kymmenennes</b>	[kymmenenes]
two thirds	<b>kaksi kolmasosaa</b>	[kaksi kolmasosa:]
three quarters	<b>kolme neljäsosaa</b>	[kolme nel <sup>h</sup> jæsosaa:]

## 8. Numbers. Basic operations

subtraction	<b>vähennyslasku</b>	[væhenys lasku]
to subtract (vi, vt)	<b>vähentää</b>	[væhentæ:]
division	<b>jako</b>	[jako]
to divide (vt)	<b>jakaa</b>	[jaka:]
addition	<b>yhteenlasku</b>	[yhte:nlasku]
to add up (vt)	<b>laskea yhteen</b>	[laskea yhte:n]
to add (vi, vt)	<b>lisätä</b>	[lisætæ]
multiplication	<b>kertolasku</b>	[kertolasku]
to multiply (vt)	<b>kertoa</b>	[kertoa]

## 9. Numbers. Miscellaneous

digit, figure	<b>numero</b>	[numero]
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number	<b>luku</b>	[luku]
numeral	<b>lukusana</b>	[lukusana]
minus sign	<b>miinus</b>	[mi:inus]
plus sign	<b>plus</b>	[plus]
formula	<b>kaava</b>	[ka:ʋɑ]
calculation	<b>laskenta</b>	[laskenta]
to count (vt)	<b>laskea</b>	[laskea]
to count up	<b>laskea</b>	[laskea]
to compare (vt)	<b>verrata</b>	[ʋerrata]
How much?	<b>Kuinka paljon?</b>	[kuinka palʰon]
How many?	<b>Kuinka monta?</b>	[kuinka monta]
sum, total	<b>summa</b>	[summa]
result	<b>tulos</b>	[tulos]
remainder	<b>jäännös</b>	[jæ:ŋøs]
a few ...	<b>muutama</b>	[mu:tama]
few, little (adv)	<b>vähän</b>	[ʋæɦæn]
the rest	<b>muu</b>	[mu:]
one and a half	<b>puolitoista</b>	[puolitojsta]
dozen	<b>tusina</b>	[tusina]
in half (adv)	<b>kahtia</b>	[kahtia]
equally (evenly)	<b>tasan</b>	[tasan]
half	<b>puoli</b>	[puoli]
time (three ~s)	<b>kerta</b>	[kerta]

## 10. The most important verbs. Part 1

to advise (vt)	<b>neuvoa</b>	[neuvoɑ]
to agree (say yes)	<b>suostua</b>	[suostua]
to answer (vi, vt)	<b>vastata</b>	[ʋastata]
to apologize (vi)	<b>pyytää anteeksi</b>	[py:tæ: ante:ksi]
to arrive (vi)	<b>saapua</b>	[sa:pua]
to ask (~ oneself)	<b>kysyä</b>	[kysyæ]
to ask (~ sb to do sth)	<b>pyytää</b>	[py:tæ:]
to be (vi)	<b>olla</b>	[olla]
to be afraid	<b>pelätä</b>	[peʎætæ]
to be hungry	<b>minulla on nälkä</b>	[minulla on ɲælkæ]
to be interested in ...	<b>kiinnostua</b>	[ki:iɲostua]
to be needed	<b>tarvitsee</b>	[taruitse:]
to be surprised	<b>ihmetellä</b>	[ihmeteʎæ]
to be thirsty	<b>minulla on jano</b>	[minulla on æno]
to begin (vt)	<b>alkaa</b>	[alka:]
to belong to ...	<b>kuulua</b>	[ku:lua]
to boast (vi)	<b>kehua</b>	[kehua]
to break (split into pieces)	<b>rikkoa</b>	[rikkoa]
to call (for help)	<b>kutsua</b>	[kutsua]
can (v aux)	<b>voida</b>	[vojda]

to catch (vt)	<b>ottaa kiinni</b>	[otta: ki:inj]
to change (vt)	<b>muuttaa</b>	[mu:tta:]
to choose (select)	<b>valita</b>	[ʋalita]
to come down	<b>laskeutua</b>	[laskeutua]
to come in (enter)	<b>tulla sisään</b>	[tulla sisæ:n]
to compare (vt)	<b>verrata</b>	[ʋerrata]
to complain (vi, vt)	<b>valittaa</b>	[ʋalitta:]
to confuse (mix up)	<b>sotkea</b>	[sotkea]
to continue (vt)	<b>jatkaa</b>	[jatka:]
to control (vt)	<b>tarkastaa</b>	[tarkasta:]
to cook (dinner)	<b>laittaa</b>	[lajtta:]
to cost (vt)	<b>maksaa</b>	[maksa:]
to count (add up)	<b>laskea</b>	[laskea]
to count on ...	<b>luottaa</b>	[luotta:]
to create (vt)	<b>luoda</b>	[luoda]
to cry (weep)	<b>itkeä</b>	[itkeæ]

## 11. The most important verbs. Part 2

to deceive (vi, vt)	<b>pettää</b>	[pettæ:]
to decorate (tree, street)	<b>koristaa</b>	[korista:]
to defend (a country, etc.)	<b>puolustaa</b>	[puolusta:]
to demand (request)	<b>vaatia</b>	[ʋa:tiɑ]

firmly)

to dig (vt)	<b>kaivaa</b>	[kajua:]
to discuss (vt)	<b>käsitellä</b>	[kæsiteʎæ]
to do (vt)	<b>tehdä</b>	[tehdæ]
to doubt (have doubts)	<b>epäillä</b>	[epæjʎæ]
to drop (let fall)	<b>pudottaa</b>	[pudotta:]
to exist (vi)	<b>olla olemassa</b>	[olla olemassa]
to expect (foresee)	<b>nähdä ennakolta</b>	[næhdæ enʎakolta]
to explain (vt)	<b>selittää</b>	[selittæ:]
to fall (vi)	<b>kaatua</b>	[ka:tua]
to find (vt)	<b>löytää</b>	[løytæ:]
to finish (vt)	<b>lopettaa</b>	[lopetta:]
to fly (vi)	<b>lentää</b>	[lentæ:]
to follow ... (come after)	<b>seurata</b>	[seurata]
to forget (vi, vt)	<b>unohtaa</b>	[unohta:]
to forgive (vt)	<b>antaa anteeksi</b>	[anta: ante:ksi]
to give (vt)	<b>antaa</b>	[anta:]
to give a hint	<b>vihjata</b>	[vih <sup>h</sup> jata]
to go (on foot)	<b>mennä</b>	[menʎæ]
to go for a swim	<b>kylpeä</b>	[kylpeæ]
to go out (from ...)	<b>poistua</b>	[pojstua]
to guess right	<b>arvata</b>	[aruata]

to have (vt)	<b>omistaa</b>	[omista:]
to have breakfast	<b>syödä aamiaista</b>	[syødæ a:miajsta]
to have dinner	<b>illastaa</b>	[illasta:]
to have lunch	<b>syödä päivällistä</b>	[syødæ pæjuællistæ]
to hear (vt)	<b>kuulla</b>	[ku:lla]
to help (vt)	<b>auttaa</b>	[autta:]
to hide (vt)	<b>piilotella</b>	[pi:ilotella]
to hope (vi, vt)	<b>toivoa</b>	[tojuoa]
to hunt (vi, vt)	<b>metsästää</b>	[metsæstæ:]
to hurry (vi)	<b>kiirehtiä</b>	[ki:irehtiæ]

## 12. The most important verbs. Part 3

to inform (vt)	<b>tiedottaa</b>	[tiedotta:]
to insist (vi, vt)	<b>pysyä kannassaan</b>	[pysyæ kanassa:n]
to insult (vt)	<b>loukata</b>	[loukata]
to invite (vt)	<b>kutsua</b>	[kutsua]
to joke (vi)	<b>laskea leikkiä</b>	[laskea lejkkie]
to keep (vt)	<b>säilyttää</b>	[sæjlyttæ:]
to keep silent	<b>olla vaiti</b>	[olla uajti]
to kill (vt)	<b>murhata</b>	[murhata]
to know (sb)	<b>tuntea</b>	[tuntea]
to know (sth)	<b>tietää</b>	[tietæ:]
to laugh (vi)	<b>nauraa</b>	[naura:]



to liberate (city, etc.)	<b>vapauttaa</b>	[vapautta:]
to like (I like ...)	<b>pitää</b>	[pitæ:]
to look for ... (search)	<b>etsiä</b>	[etsiæ]
to love (sb)	<b>rakastaa</b>	[rakasta:]
to make a mistake	<b>erehtyä</b>	[erehtyæ]
to manage, to run	<b>johtaa</b>	[øhta:]
to mean (signify)	<b>merkitä</b>	[merkitæ]
to mention (talk about)	<b>mainita</b>	[majnita]
to miss (school, etc.)	<b>olla poissa</b>	[olla pojssa]
to notice (see)	<b>huomata</b>	[huomata]
to object (vi, vt)	<b>väittää vastaan</b>	[væjttæ: vasta:n]
to observe (see)	<b>seurata</b>	[seurata]
to open (vt)	<b>avata</b>	[avata]
to order (meal, etc.)	<b>tilata</b>	[tilata]
to order (mil.)	<b>käskeä</b>	[kæskeæ]
to own (possess)	<b>omistaa</b>	[omista:]
to participate (vi)	<b>osallistua</b>	[osallistua]
to pay (vi, vt)	<b>maksaa</b>	[maksa:]
to permit (vt)	<b>antaa lupa</b>	[anta: lupa]
to plan (vt)	<b>suunnitella</b>	[su:ɲitella]
to play (children)	<b>leikkiä</b>	[lejkkiaæ]
to pray (vi, vt)	<b>rukoilla</b>	[rukojlla]
to prefer (vt)	<b>katsoa parhaaksi</b>	[katsoa parha:ksi]

to promise (vt)	<b>luvata</b>	[luvata]
to pronounce (vt)	<b>lausua</b>	[lausua]
to propose (vt)	<b>ehdottaa</b>	[ehdotta:]
to punish (vt)	<b>rangaista</b>	[ranajsta]
to read (vi, vt)	<b>lukea</b>	[lukea]
to recommend (vt)	<b>suositella</b>	[suositella]
to refuse (vi, vt)	<b>kieltäytyä</b>	[kæltæytyæ]
to regret (be sorry)	<b>säälää</b>	[sæ:liæ]
to rent (sth from sb)	<b>vuokrata</b>	[vuokrata]
to repeat (say again)	<b>toistaa</b>	[tojsta:]
to reserve, to book	<b>reservoida</b>	[reservoijda]
to run (vi)	<b>juosta</b>	[juosta]

### 13. The most important verbs. Part 4

to save (rescue)	<b>pelastaa</b>	[pelasta:]
to say (~ thank you)	<b>sanoa</b>	[sanoa]
to scold (vt)	<b>haukkua</b>	[haukkua]
to see (vt)	<b>nähdä</b>	[næhdæ]
to sell (vt)	<b>myydä</b>	[my:dæ]
to send (vt)	<b>lähettää</b>	[læhettæ:]
to shoot (vi)	<b>ampua</b>	[ampua]
to shout (vi)	<b>huutaa</b>	[hu:ta:]
to show (vt)	<b>näyttää</b>	[næyttæ:]

to sign (document)	<b>allekirjoittaa</b>	[allekir <sup>h</sup> ojtta:]
to sit down (vi)	<b>istua</b>	[istua]
to smile (vi)	<b>hymyillä</b>	[hymyj <sup>h</sup> æ]
to speak (vi, vt)	<b>keskustella</b>	[keskustella]
to steal (money, etc.)	<b>varastaa</b>	[varasta:]
to stop (cease)	<b>lakata</b>	[lakata]
to stop (for pause, etc.)	<b>pysähtyä</b>	[pysæhtyæ]
to study (vt)	<b>oppia</b>	[oppia]
to swim (vi)	<b>uida</b>	[ujda]
to take (vt)	<b>ottaa</b>	[otta:]
to think (vi, vt)	<b>ajatella</b>	[ajatella]
to threaten (vt)	<b>uhata</b>	[uhata]
to touch (with hands)	<b>koskettaa</b>	[kosketta:]
to translate (vt)	<b>kääntää</b>	[kæ:ntæ:]
to trust (vt)	<b>luottaa</b>	[luotta:]
to try (attempt)	<b>koettaa</b>	[koetta:]
to turn (~ to the left)	<b>kääntää</b>	[kæ:ntæ:]
to underestimate (vt)	<b>aliarvioida</b>	[aliarviojda]
to understand (vt)	<b>ymmärtää</b>	[ymmærtæ:]
to unite (vt)	<b>yhdistää</b>	[yhdistæ:]
to wait (vt)	<b>odottaa</b>	[odotta:]
to want (wish, desire)	<b>haluta</b>	[haluta]
to warn (vt)	<b>varoittaa</b>	[varojtta:]
to work (vi)	<b>työskennellä</b>	[tyøskene <sup>h</sup> æ]

to write (vt)	<b>kirjoittaa</b>	[kir <sup>h</sup> ojtta:]
to write down	<b>kirjoittaa muistiin</b>	[kir <sup>h</sup> ojtta: mujsti:in]

## 14. Colors

color	<b>väri</b>	[væri]
shade (tint)	<b>vivahdus</b>	[vivahdus]
hue	<b>värisävy</b>	[væri sævy]
rainbow	<b>sateenkaari</b>	[sate:n ka:ri]
white (adj)	<b>valkoinen</b>	[valkojnen]
black (adj)	<b>musta</b>	[musta]
gray (adj)	<b>harmaa</b>	[harma:]
green (adj)	<b>vihreä</b>	[vihreæ]
yellow (adj)	<b>keltainen</b>	[keltajnen]
red (adj)	<b>punainen</b>	[punajnen]
blue (adj)	<b>sininen</b>	[sininen]
light blue (adj)	<b>vaaleansininen</b>	[va:lean sininen]
pink (adj)	<b>vaaleanpunainen</b>	[va:lean punajnen]
orange (adj)	<b>oranssi</b>	[oranssi]
violet (adj)	<b>violetti</b>	[violetti]
brown (adj)	<b>ruskea</b>	[ruskea]
golden (adj)	<b>kultainen</b>	[kultajnen]
silvery (adj)	<b>hopeinen</b>	[hopejnen]

beige (adj)	<b>beige</b>	[be:ge]
cream (adj)	<b>kermanvärinen</b>	[kerman uærinen]
turquoise (adj)	<b>turkoosi</b>	[turko:si]
cherry red (adj)	<b>kirsikanpunainen</b>	[kirsikan punajnen]
lilac (adj)	<b>sinipunainen</b>	[sini punajnen]
crimson (adj)	<b>karmininpunainen</b>	[karmi:inen punajnen]
light (adj)	<b>vaalea</b>	[ua:lea]
dark (adj)	<b>tumma</b>	[tumma]
bright (adj)	<b>kirkas</b>	[kirkas]
colored (pencils)	<b>väri-</b>	[uæri]
color (e.g., ~ film)	<b>värillinen</b>	[uærillinen]
black-and-white (adj)	<b>mustavalkoinen</b>	[musta ualkojnen]
plain (one color)	<b>yksivärinen</b>	[yksiuærinen]
multicolored (adj)	<b>erivärinen</b>	[eriuærinen]

## 15. Questions

Who?	<b>Kuka?</b>	[kuka]
What?	<b>Mikä?</b>	[mikæ]
Where? (at, in)	<b>Missä?</b>	[missæ]
Where (to)?	<b>Mihin?</b>	[mihin]
Where ... from?	<b>Mistä?</b>	[mistæ]
When?	<b>Milloin?</b>	[millojn]
Why? (aim)	<b>Mitä varten?</b>	[mitæ uarten]

Why? (reason)	<b>Miksi?</b>	[miksi]
What for?	<b>Minkä vuoksi?</b>	[miŋkæ vuoksi]
How? (in what way)	<b>Miten?</b>	[miten]
What? (which?)	<b>Millainen?</b>	[millajnen]
Which?	<b>Mikä?</b>	[mikæ]
To whom?	<b>Kenelle?</b>	[kenelle]
About whom?	<b>Kenestä?</b>	[kenestæ]
About what?	<b>Mistä?</b>	[mistæ]
With whom?	<b>Kenen kanssa?</b>	[kenen kanssa]
How many?	<b>Kuinka monta?</b>	[kuiŋka monta]
How much?	<b>Kuinka paljon?</b>	[kuiŋka pal <sup>h</sup> on]
Whose?	<b>Kenen?</b>	[kenen]

## 16. Prepositions

with (accompanied by)	<b>kanssa</b>	[kanssa]
without	<b>ilman</b>	[ilman]
to (indicating direction)	<b>... ssa/ssä</b>	[ssa] / [ssæ]
about (talking ~ ...)	<b>... sta, ... stä</b>	[sta], [stæ]
before (in time)	<b>ennen</b>	[eŋen]
in front of ...	<b>edessä</b>	[edessæ]
under (beneath, below)	<b>alla</b>	[alla]

above (over)	<b>yllä</b>	[yʎæ]
on (atop)	<b>päällä</b>	[pæ:ʎæ]
from (off, out of)	<b>... sta, ... stä</b>	[stɑ], [stæ]
of (made from)	<b>... sta, ... stä</b>	[stɑ], [stæ]
in (e.g., ~ ten minutes)	<b>päästä</b>	[pæ:stæ]
over (across the top of)	<b>yli</b>	[yli]

## 17. Function words. Adverbs. Part 1

Where? (at, in)	<b>Missä?</b>	[missæ]
here (adv)	<b>täällä</b>	[tæ:ʎæ]
there (adv)	<b>siellä</b>	[sieʎæ]
somewhere (to be)	<b>jossain</b>	[øssɑjn]
nowhere (not anywhere)	<b>ei missään</b>	[ej missæ:n]
by (near, beside)	<b>vieressä</b>	[uæressæ]
by the window	<b>ikkunan vieressä</b>	[ikkunan uæressæ]
Where (to)?	<b>Mihin?</b>	[mihin]
here (e.g., come ~!)	<b>tänne</b>	[tæŋe]
there (e.g., to go ~)	<b>tuonne</b>	[tuŋe]
from here (adv)	<b>täältä</b>	[tæ:ltæ]
from there (adv)	<b>sieltä</b>	[sieltæ]



close (adv)	<b>lähellä</b>	[ˈæheːlə]
far (adv)	<b>kaukana</b>	[ˈkaukana]
near (e.g., ~ Paris)	<b>luona</b>	[ˈluona]
nearby (adv)	<b>vieressä</b>	[ˈværessæ]
not far (adv)	<b>lähelle</b>	[ˈæhelle]
left (adj)	<b>vasen</b>	[ˈvasen]
on the left	<b>vasemmalla</b>	[ˈvasemmalla]
to the left	<b>vasemmalle</b>	[ˈvasemalle]
right (adj)	<b>oikea</b>	[ˈojkea]
on the right	<b>oikealla</b>	[ˈojkealla]
to the right	<b>oikealle</b>	[ˈojkealle]
in front (adv)	<b>edessä</b>	[ˈedessæ]
front (as adj)	<b>etumainen</b>	[ˈetumajnen]
ahead (in space)	<b>eteenpäin</b>	[ˈete:npæjn]
behind (adv)	<b>takana</b>	[ˈtakana]
from behind	<b>takaa</b>	[ˈtaka:]
back (towards the rear)	<b>takaisin</b>	[ˈtakajsin]
middle	<b>keskikohta</b>	[ˈkeskikohta]
in the middle	<b>keskellä</b>	[ˈkeskeːlə]
at the side	<b>sivulta</b>	[ˈsiuulta]
everywhere (adv)	<b>kaikkialla</b>	[ˈkajkkialla]
around (in all directions)	<b>ympärillä</b>	[ˈympæriːlə]

from inside	<b>sisäpuolelta</b>	[sisæ puolelta]
somewhere (to go)	<b>jonnekin</b>	[øŋekin]
straight (directly)	<b>suoraan</b>	[suora:n]
back (e.g., come ~)	<b>takaisin</b>	[takajsin]
from anywhere	<b>jostakin</b>	[østakin]
from somewhere	<b>jostakin</b>	[østakin]
firstly (adv)	<b>ensiksi</b>	[ensiksi]
secondly (adv)	<b>toiseksi</b>	[tojseksi]
thirdly (adv)	<b>kolmanneksi</b>	[kolmanjeksi]
suddenly (adv)	<b>äkkiä</b>	[ækkiæ]
at first (adv)	<b>alussa</b>	[alus̩sa]
for the first time	<b>ensi kerran</b>	[ensi kerran]
long before ...	<b>kauan ennen kuin</b>	[kauan enen kuin]
anew (over again)	<b>uudestaan</b>	[u:desta:n]
for good (adv)	<b>pysyvästi</b>	[pysyvästi]
never (adv)	<b>ei koskaan</b>	[ej koska:n]
again (adv)	<b>taas</b>	[ta:s]
now (adv)	<b>nyt</b>	[nyt]
often (adv)	<b>usein</b>	[usejn]
then (adv)	<b>silloin</b>	[silloin]
urgently (quickly)	<b>pikaisesti</b>	[pikajsesti]
usually (adv)	<b>tavallisesti</b>	[tavallisesti]
by the way, ...	<b>muuten</b>	[mu:ten]

possible (that is ~)	<b>ehkä</b>	[ehkæ]
probably (adv)	<b>todennäköisesti</b>	[todən ɲækøjsesti]
maybe (adv)	<b>voi olla</b>	[voj olla]
besides ...	<b>lisäksi</b>	[lisæksi]
that's why ...	<b>siksi</b>	[siksi]
in spite of ...	<b>huolimatta</b>	[huolimatta]
thanks to ...	<b>avulla</b>	[auulla]
what (pron.)	<b>mikä</b>	[mikæ]
that	<b>että</b>	[ettæ]
something	<b>jokin</b>	[økin]
anything (something)	<b>jotakin</b>	[øtakin]
nothing	<b>ei mitään</b>	[ej mitæ:n]
who (pron.)	<b>kuka</b>	[kuka]
someone	<b>joku</b>	[øku]
somebody	<b>joku</b>	[øku]
nobody	<b>ei kukaan</b>	[ej kuka:n]
nowhere (a voyage to ~)	<b>ei mihinkään</b>	[ej mihinkæ:n]
nobody's	<b>ei kenenkään</b>	[ej kenenkæ:n]
somebody's	<b>jonkun</b>	[øŋkun]
so (I'm ~ glad)	<b>niin</b>	[ni:in]
also (as well)	<b>myös</b>	[myøs]
too (as well)	<b>myös</b>	[myøs]

## 18. Function words. Adverbs. Part 2

Why?	<b>Miksi?</b>	[miksi]
for some reason	<b>jostain syystä</b>	[østaj̃n sy:stæ]
because ...	<b>koska</b>	[koska]
for some purpose	<b>jonkin vuoksi</b>	[øŋkin uuoksi]
and	<b>ja</b>	[ja]
or	<b>tai</b>	[taj̃]
but	<b>mutta</b>	[mutta]
for (e.g., ~ me)	<b>varten</b>	[varten]
too (~ many people)	<b>liian</b>	[li:ian]
only (exclusively)	<b>vain</b>	[vaj̃n]
exactly (adv)	<b>tarkasti</b>	[tarkasti]
about (more or less)	<b>noin</b>	[noj̃n]
approximately (adv)	<b>likimäärin</b>	[likimæ:rin]
approximate (adj)	<b>likimääräinen</b>	[likimæ:ræj̃nen]
almost (adv)	<b>melkein</b>	[melkej̃n]
the rest	<b>muu</b>	[mu:]
each (adj)	<b>joka</b>	[øka]
any (no matter which)	<b>jokainen</b>	[økaj̃nen]
many, much (a lot of)	<b>paljon</b>	[pal <sup>h</sup> ø̃n]
many people	<b>monet</b>	[monet]
all (everyone)	<b>kaikki</b>	[kaj̃kki]

in return for ...	<b>korvauksena</b>	[korvauksena]
in exchange (adv)	<b>sijaan</b>	[sija:n]
by hand (made)	<b>käsin</b>	[kæsin]
hardly (negative opinion)	<b>tuskin</b>	[tuskin]
probably (adv)	<b>varmaan</b>	[varma:n]
on purpose (adv)	<b>tahallaan</b>	[tahalla:n]
by accident (adv)	<b>sattumalta</b>	[sattumalta]
very (adv)	<b>erittäin</b>	[erittæjn]
for example (adv)	<b>esimerkiksi</b>	[esimerkiksi]
between	<b>välillä</b>	[væli/æ]
among	<b>keskellä</b>	[keske/æ]
so much (such a lot)	<b>niin paljon</b>	[ni:in pal <sup>h</sup> øn]
especially (adv)	<b>erikoisesti</b>	[erikojsesti]

## BASIC CONCEPTS. PART 2

### 19. Weekdays

Monday	<b>maanantai</b>	[ma:nantaj]
Tuesday	<b>tiistai</b>	[ti:istaj]
Wednesday	<b>keskiviikko</b>	[keskiui:ikko]
Thursday	<b>torstai</b>	[torstaj]
Friday	<b>perjantai</b>	[per <sup>h</sup> jantaj]
Saturday	<b>lauantai</b>	[lauantaj]
Sunday	<b>sunnuntai</b>	[sununtaj]
today (adv)	<b>tänään</b>	[tænæ:n]
tomorrow (adv)	<b>huomenna</b>	[huomenɑ]
the day after tomorrow	<b>ylihuomenna</b>	[ylihuomenɑ]
yesterday (adv)	<b>eilen</b>	[ejlen]
the day before yesterday	<b>toissapäivänä</b>	[tojssa pæjuæɲæ]
day	<b>päivä</b>	[pæjuæ]
workday	<b>työpäivä</b>	[tyøpæjuæ]
public holiday	<b>juhlapäivä</b>	[juhlapæjuæ]
day off	<b>vapaapäivä</b>	[vapa:pæjuæ]

weekend	<b>viikonloppu</b>	[vi:ikon loppu]
all day long	<b>koko päivän</b>	[koko pæjuæn]
next day (adv)	<b>ensi päivänä</b>	[ensi pæjuæɲæ]
two days ago	<b>kaksi päivää sitten</b>	[kaksi pæjuæ: sitten]
the day before	<b>aattona</b>	[ɑ:ttona]
daily (adj)	<b>jokapäiväinen</b>	[øka pæjuæjnæn]
every day (adv)	<b>joka päivä</b>	[øka pæjuæ]
week	<b>viikko</b>	[vi:ikko]
last week (adv)	<b>viime viikolla</b>	[vi:ime ui:ikolla]
next week (adv)	<b>ensi viikolla</b>	[ensi ui:ikolla]
weekly (adj)	<b>jokaviikkoinen</b>	[økavi:ikkojnæn]
every week (adv)	<b>joka viikko</b>	[øka ui:ikko]
twice a week	<b>kaksi kertaa viikossa</b>	[kaksi kerta: ui:ikossa]
every Tuesday	<b>joka tiistai</b>	[øka ti:istaj]

## 20. Hours. Day and night

morning	<b>aamu</b>	[ɑ:mu]
in the morning	<b>aamulla</b>	[ɑ:mulla]
noon, midday	<b>puolipäivä</b>	[puolipæjuæ]
in the afternoon	<b>iltapäivällä</b>	[ilta pæjuæ/æ]
evening	<b>ilta</b>	[ilta]
in the evening	<b>illalla</b>	[illalla]



night	<b>yö</b>	[yø]
at night	<b>yöllä</b>	[yøʎæ]
midnight	<b>puoliyö</b>	[puoli yø]
second	<b>sekunti</b>	[sekunti]
minute	<b>minuutti</b>	[minu:tti]
hour	<b>tunti</b>	[tunti]
half an hour	<b>puoli tuntia</b>	[puoli tuntia]
quarter of an hour	<b>vartti</b>	[vartti]
fifteen minutes	<b>viisitoista minuuttia</b>	[vi:isitojsta minu:ttia]
24 hours	<b>vuorokausi</b>	[vuoro kausi]
sunrise	<b>auringonnousu</b>	[aurinon nousu]
dawn	<b>sarastus</b>	[sarastus]
early morning	<b>varhainen aamu</b>	[varhajnen a:mu]
sunset	<b>auringonlasku</b>	[aurinon lasku]
early in the morning	<b>aamulla aikaisin</b>	[a:mulla ajkajsin]
this morning	<b>tänä aamuna</b>	[tæɲæ a:muna]
tomorrow morning	<b>ensi aamuna</b>	[ensi a:muna]
this afternoon	<b>tänä päivänä</b>	[tæɲæ pæjuæɲæ]
in the afternoon	<b>iltapäivällä</b>	[ilta pæjuæʎæ]
tomorrow afternoon	<b>huomisiltapäivällä</b>	[huomis ilta pæjuæʎæ]
tonight (this evening)	<b>tänä iltana</b>	[tæɲæ iltana]
tomorrow night	<b>ensi iltana</b>	[ensi iltana]
at 3 o'clock sharp	<b>tasana kolmelta</b>	[tasan kolmelta]

about 4 o'clock by 12 o'clock	<b>noin neljältä kahdentoista mennessä</b>	[nojn nel <sup>h</sup> æltæ] [kahdentojsta menessæ]
in 20 minutes	<b>kahdenkymmenen minuutin kuluttua</b>	[kahdenkymmenen minu:tin kuluttua]
in an hour on time (adv)	<b>tunnin kuluttua ajoissa</b>	[tunjin kuluttua] [aøjssa]
a quarter of ... within an hour every 15 minutes	<b>varttia vaille tunnin kuluessa viidentoista minuutin välein</b>	[varttia vajlle] [tunjin kuluessa] [vi:iden tojsta minu:tin vælejn]
round the clock	<b>ympäri vuorokauden</b>	[ympæri vuoro kauden]

## 21. Months. Seasons

January	<b>tammikuu</b>	[tammiku:]
February	<b>helmikuu</b>	[helmiku:]
March	<b>maaliskuu</b>	[ma:lisku:]
April	<b>huhtikuu</b>	[huhtiku:]
May	<b>toukokuu</b>	[toukoku:]
June	<b>kesäkuu</b>	[kesæku:]
July	<b>heinäkuu</b>	[hejnæku:]
August	<b>elokuu</b>	[eloku:]
September	<b>syyskuu</b>	[sy:sku:]

October	<b>lokakuu</b>	[lokaku:]
November	<b>marraskuu</b>	[marrasku:]
December	<b>joulukuu</b>	[øuluku:]
spring	<b>kevät</b>	[keuæt]
in spring	<b>keväällä</b>	[keuæ:ʎæ]
spring (as adj)	<b>keväinen</b>	[keuæjnen]
summer	<b>kesä</b>	[kesæ]
in summer	<b>kesällä</b>	[kesæʎæ]
summer (as adj)	<b>kesäinen</b>	[kesæjnen]
fall	<b>syksy</b>	[syksy]
in fall	<b>syksyllä</b>	[syksyʎæ]
fall (as adj)	<b>syksyinen</b>	[syksyjnen]
winter	<b>talvi</b>	[talui]
in winter	<b>talvella</b>	[taluella]
winter (as adj)	<b>talvinen</b>	[talvinen]
month	<b>kuukausi</b>	[ku:kausi]
this month	<b>tässä kuukaudessa</b>	[tæssæ ku:kaudessa]
next month	<b>ensi kuukaudessa</b>	[ensi ku:kaudessa]
last month	<b>viime kuukaudessa</b>	[vi:ime ku:kaudessa]
a month ago	<b>kuukausi sitten</b>	[ku:kausi sitten]
in a month	<b>kuukauden kuluttua</b>	[ku:kauden kuluttua]
in two months	<b>kahden kuukauden kuluttua</b>	[kahden ku:kauden kuluttua]

the whole month	<b>koko kuukauden</b>	[koko ku:kauden]
all month long	<b>koko kuukauden</b>	[koko ku:kauden]
monthly (~ magazine)	<b>kuukautinen</b>	[ku:kautinen]
monthly (adv)	<b>kuukausittain</b>	[ku:kausittajn]
every month	<b>joka kuukausi</b>	[øka ku:kausi]
twice a month	<b>kaksi kertaa kuukaudessa</b>	[kaksi kerta: ku:kaudessa]
year	<b>vuosi</b>	[vuosi]
this year	<b>tänä vuonna</b>	[tænjæ vuonja]
next year	<b>ensi vuonna</b>	[ensi vuonja]
last year	<b>viime vuonna</b>	[vi:ime vuonja]
a year ago	<b>vuosi sitten</b>	[vuosi sitten]
in a year	<b>vuoden kuluttua</b>	[vuoden kuluttua]
in two years	<b>kahden vuoden kuluttua</b>	[kahden vuoden kuluttua]
the whole year	<b>koko vuoden</b>	[koko vuoden]
all year long	<b>koko vuoden</b>	[koko vuoden]
every year	<b>joka vuosi</b>	[øka vuosi]
annual (adj)	<b>vuosittainen</b>	[vuosittajnen]
annually (adv)	<b>vuosittain</b>	[vuosittajn]
4 times a year	<b>neljä kertaa vuodessa</b>	[nel <sup>h</sup> jæ kerta: vuodessa]
date (e.g., today's ~)	<b>päivä</b>	[pæjuæ]
date (e.g., ~ of birth)	<b>päivämäärä</b>	[pæjuæmæ:ræ]

calendar	<b>kalenteri</b>	[kalenteri]
half a year	<b>puoli vuotta</b>	[puoli vuotta]
six months	<b>vuosipuolisko</b>	[vuosi puolisko]
season (summer, etc.)	<b>kausi</b>	[kausi]
century	<b>vuosisata</b>	[vuosisata]

## 22. Time. Miscellaneous

time	<b>aika</b>	[ajka]
instant (n)	<b>tuokio</b>	[tuokio]
moment	<b>hetki</b>	[hetki]
instant (adj)	<b>hetkellinen</b>	[hetkellinen]
lapse (of time)	<b>ajanjakso</b>	[ajan <sup>h</sup> jakso]
life	<b>elämä</b>	[eʎæmæ]
eternity	<b>ikuisuus</b>	[ikujsu:s]
epoch	<b>kausi</b>	[kausi]
era	<b>ajanlasku</b>	[ajanlasku]
cycle	<b>jakso</b>	[jakso]
period	<b>vaihe</b>	[vajhe]
term (short-~)	<b>määräaika</b>	[mæ:ræajka]
the future	<b>tulevaisuus</b>	[tulevajsu:s]
future (as adj)	<b>ensi</b>	[ensi]
next time	<b>ensi kerralla</b>	[ensi kerralla]

the past	<b>menneisyys</b>	[menɛjsy:s]
past (recent)	<b>viime</b>	[vi:ime]
last time	<b>viime kerralla</b>	[vi:ime kerralla]
later (adv)	<b>myöhemmin</b>	[myøhemmin]
after	<b>jälkeenpäin</b>	[jælke:npæjn]
nowadays (adv)	<b>nykyään</b>	[nykyæ:n]
now (adv)	<b>nyt</b>	[nyt]
immediately (adv)	<b>heti</b>	[heti]
soon (adv)	<b>kohta</b>	[kohta]
in advance (beforehand)	<b>ennakolta</b>	[enakolta]
a long time ago	<b>kauan</b>	[kauan]
recently (adv)	<b>äskettäin</b>	[æskettæjn]
destiny	<b>kohtalo</b>	[kohtalo]
memories (childhood ~)	<b>muisto</b>	[mujsto]
archives	<b>arkisto</b>	[arkisto]
during ...	<b>aikana</b>	[ajkana]
long, a long time (adv)	<b>kauan</b>	[kauan]
not long (adv)	<b>vähän aikaa</b>	[væhæn ajka:]
early (in the morning)	<b>aikaisin</b>	[ajkajsin]
late (not early)	<b>myöhään</b>	[myøhæ:n]
forever (for good)	<b>ainiaaksi</b>	[ajnia:ksi]
to start (begin)	<b>aloittaa</b>	[alojtta:]

to postpone (vt)	<b>siirtää</b>	[si:irtæ:]
at the same time	<b>samanaikaisesti</b>	[saman ajkajsesti]
permanently (adv)	<b>alituaisesti</b>	[alitujsesti]
constant (noise, pain)	<b>vakinainen</b>	[vakinajnen]
temporary (adj)	<b>väliaikainen</b>	[væli ajkajnen]
sometimes (adv)	<b>joskus</b>	[øskus]
rarely (adv)	<b>harvoin</b>	[haruojn]
often (adv)	<b>usein</b>	[usejn]

## 23. Opposites

rich (adj)	<b>rikas</b>	[rikas]
poor (adj)	<b>köyhä</b>	[køyhæ]
ill, sick (adj)	<b>sairas</b>	[sajras]
healthy (adj)	<b>terve</b>	[terue]
big (adj)	<b>iso</b>	[iso]
small (adj)	<b>pieni</b>	[pæni]
quickly (adv)	<b>nopeasti</b>	[nopeasti]
slowly (adv)	<b>hitaasti</b>	[hita:sti]
fast (adj)	<b>nopea</b>	[nopea]
slow (adj)	<b>hidas</b>	[hidas]
cheerful (adj)	<b>iloinen</b>	[ilojnen]



sad (adj)	<b>surullinen</b>	[surullinen]
together (adv)	<b>yhdessä</b>	[yhdessä]
separately (adv)	<b>erikseen</b>	[erikse:n]
aloud (to read)	<b>ääneen</b>	[æ:ne:n]
silently (to oneself)	<b>itseksseen</b>	[itsekse:n]
tall (adj)	<b>korkea</b>	[korkea]
low (adj)	<b>matala</b>	[matala]
deep (adj)	<b>syvä</b>	[syuæ]
shallow (adj)	<b>matala</b>	[matala]
yes	<b>kyllä</b>	[kyʌæ]
no	<b>ei</b>	[ej]
distant (in space)	<b>kaukainen</b>	[kaukajnen]
nearby (adj)	<b>läheinen</b>	[ʌæhejnen]
far (adv)	<b>kaukana</b>	[kaukana]
nearby (adv)	<b>vierellä</b>	[uiereʌæ]
long (adj)	<b>pitkä</b>	[pitkæ]
short (adj)	<b>lyhyt</b>	[lyhyt]
good (kindhearted)	<b>hyvä</b>	[hyuæ]
evil (adj)	<b>vihainen</b>	[uihajnen]
married (adj)	<b>naimisissa oleva</b>	[najmisissa oleva]
single (adj)	<b>naimaton</b>	[najmaton]

to forbid (vt)	<b>kieltää</b>	[kjeltæ:]
to permit (vt)	<b>antaa lupa</b>	[anta: lupa]
end	<b>loppu</b>	[loppu]
beginning	<b>alku</b>	[alku]
left (adj)	<b>vasen</b>	[vasen]
right (adj)	<b>oikea</b>	[ojkea]
first (adj)	<b>ensimmäinen</b>	[ensimmæjnen]
last (adj)	<b>viimeinen</b>	[vi:imejnen]
crime	<b>rikos</b>	[rikos]
punishment	<b>rangaistus</b>	[ranajstus]
to order (vt)	<b>käskää</b>	[kæskeæ]
to obey (vi, vt)	<b>alistua</b>	[alistua]
straight (adj)	<b>suora</b>	[suora]
curved (adj)	<b>käyrä</b>	[kæyræ]
heaven	<b>paratiisi</b>	[parati:isi]
hell	<b>helvetti</b>	[heluetti]
to be born	<b>syntyä</b>	[syntyæ]
to die (vi)	<b>kuolla</b>	[kuolla]
strong (adj)	<b>voimakas</b>	[vojmakas]
weak (adj)	<b>heikko</b>	[hejkko]
old (adj)	<b>vanha</b>	[vanha]
young (adj)	<b>nuori</b>	[nuori]

old (adj)	<b>vanha</b>	[ʋanhɑ]
new (adj)	<b>uusi</b>	[u:si]
hard (adj)	<b>kova</b>	[kouɑ]
soft (adj)	<b>pehmeä</b>	[pehmeæ]
warm (adj)	<b>lämmin</b>	[λæmmin]
cold (adj)	<b>kylmä</b>	[kylmæ]
fat (adj)	<b>lihava</b>	[lihauɑ]
slim (adj)	<b>laiha</b>	[lajhɑ]
narrow (adj)	<b>kapea</b>	[kapeæ]
wide (adj)	<b>leveä</b>	[leueæ]
good (adj)	<b>hyvä</b>	[hyuæ]
bad (adj)	<b>huono</b>	[huono]
brave (adj)	<b>rohkea</b>	[rohkea]
cowardly (adj)	<b>pelkurimainen</b>	[pelkurimajnen]

## 24. Lines and shapes

square	<b>neliö</b>	[neliø]
square (as adj)	<b>neliömainen</b>	[neliømæjnɛn]
circle	<b>ympyrä</b>	[ympyræ]
round (adj)	<b>pyöreä</b>	[pyøreæ]
triangle	<b>kolmio</b>	[kolmio]
triangular (adj)	<b>kolmikulmainen</b>	[kolmi kulmajnen]

oval	<b>soikio</b>	[sojkio]
oval (as adj)	<b>soikea</b>	[sojkea]
rectangle	<b>suorakulmio</b>	[suorakulmio]
rectangular (adj)	<b>suorakulmainen</b>	[suorakulmajnen]
pyramid	<b>pyramidi</b>	[pyramidi]
rhombus	<b>vinoneliö</b>	[vino neliø]
trapezoid	<b>trapetsi</b>	[trapetsi]
cube	<b>kuutio</b>	[ku:tio]
prism	<b>prisma</b>	[prisma]
circumference	<b>ympyrä</b>	[ympyræ]
sphere	<b>pallo</b>	[pallo]
globe (sphere)	<b>pallo</b>	[pallo]
diameter	<b>halkaisija</b>	[halkajsija]
radius	<b>säde</b>	[sæde]
perimeter	<b>ympärysmitta</b>	[ympærys mittæ]
center	<b>keskus</b>	[keskus]
horizontal (adj)	<b>vaakasuora</b>	[va:ka suora]
vertical (adj)	<b>pystysuora</b>	[pysty suora]
parallel (n)	<b>leveyspiiri</b>	[leveyspi:iri]
parallel (as adj)	<b>yhdensuuntainen</b>	[yhden su:ntajnen]
line	<b>viiva</b>	[vi:iua]
stroke	<b>viiva</b>	[vi:iua]
straight line	<b>suora</b>	[suora]
curve (curved line)	<b>käyrä</b>	[kæyræ]

thin (line, etc.)	<b>ohut</b>	[ohut]
contour (outline)	<b>ääriviivat</b>	[æ:ri ui:iuat]
intersection	<b>leikkauskohta</b>	[lejkkkaus kohta]
right angle	<b>suora kulma</b>	[suora kulma]
segment	<b>segmentti</b>	[segmentti]
sector	<b>sektori</b>	[sektori]
side (of triangle)	<b>puoli</b>	[puoli]
angle	<b>kulma</b>	[kulma]

## 25. Units of measurement

weight	<b>paino</b>	[pajno]
length	<b>pituus</b>	[pitu:s]
width	<b>leveys</b>	[leveys]
height	<b>korkeus</b>	[korkeus]
depth	<b>syvyys</b>	[syuy:s]
volume	<b>tilavuus</b>	[tilauu:s]
area	<b>pinta-ala</b>	[pinta ala]
gram	<b>gramma</b>	[gramma]
milligram	<b>milligramma</b>	[milligramma]
kilogram	<b>kilo</b>	[kilo]
ton	<b>tonni</b>	[toni]
pound	<b>punta</b>	[punta]
ounce	<b>unssi</b>	[unssi]

meter	<b>metri</b>	[metri]
millimeter	<b>millimetri</b>	[millimetri]
centimeter	<b>senttimetri</b>	[senttimetri]
kilometer	<b>kilometri</b>	[kilometri]
mile	<b>peninkulma</b>	[penin kulma]
inch	<b>tuuma</b>	[tu:ma]
foot	<b>jalka</b>	[jalka]
yard	<b>jaardi</b>	[ja:rdi]
square meter	<b>neliömetri</b>	[neliø metri]
hectare	<b>hehtaari</b>	[hehta:ri]
liter	<b>litra</b>	[litra]
degree	<b>aste</b>	[aste]
volt	<b>voltti</b>	[voltti]
ampere	<b>ampeeri</b>	[ampe:ri]
horsepower	<b>hevosvoima</b>	[hevosuojma]
quantity	<b>määrä</b>	[mæ:ræ]
a little bit of ...	<b>vähän</b>	[væhæn]
half	<b>puoli</b>	[puoli]
dozen	<b>tusina</b>	[tusina]
piece (item)	<b>kappale</b>	[kappale]
size	<b>koko</b>	[koko]
scale (map ~)	<b>mittakaava</b>	[mittaka:ua]
minimal (adj)	<b>minimaalinen</b>	[minima:linen]
the smallest (adj)	<b>pienin</b>	[pienin]

medium (adj)	<b>keskimmäinen</b>	[keskimmæjnen]
maximal (adj)	<b>maksimaalinen</b>	[maksima:linen]
the largest (adj)	<b>suurin</b>	[su:rin]

## 26. Containers

jar (glass)	<b>lasitölkki</b>	[lasitølkki]
can	<b>peltitölkki</b>	[peltitølkki]
bucket	<b>sanko</b>	[saŋko]
barrel	<b>tyynyri</b>	[tynyri]
basin (for washing)	<b>vati</b>	[vati]
tank (for liquid, gas)	<b>säiliö</b>	[sæjliø]
hip flask	<b>kenttäpullo</b>	[kenttæ pullo]
jerrycan	<b>kanisteri</b>	[kanisteri]
cistern (tank)	<b>säiliö</b>	[sæjliø]
mug	<b>tuoppi</b>	[tuoppi]
cup (of coffee, etc.)	<b>kuppi</b>	[kuppi]
saucer	<b>teevati</b>	[te:vati]
glass (tumbler)	<b>lasi</b>	[lasi]
glass (~ of wine)	<b>malja</b>	[mal'hja]
saucepan	<b>kattila</b>	[kattila]
bottle (~ of wine)	<b>pullo</b>	[pullo]
neck (of the bottle)	<b>pullonkaula</b>	[pullonkaula]
carafe	<b>karahvi</b>	[karahui]

pitcher (earthenware)	<b>kannu</b>	[kanu]
vessel (container)	<b>astia</b>	[astia]
pot (crook)	<b>ruukku</b>	[ru:kku]
vase	<b>maljakko</b>	[mal'hjakko]
bottle (~ of perfume)	<b>pullo</b>	[pullo]
vial, small bottle	<b>pullonen</b>	[pullonen]
tube (of toothpaste)	<b>tuubi</b>	[tu:bi]
sack (bag)	<b>säkki</b>	[sækki]
bag (paper ~, plastic ~)	<b>kassi</b>	[kassi]
pack (of cigarettes, etc.)	<b>paketti</b>	[paketti]
box (e.g., shoebox)	<b>laatikko</b>	[la:tikko]
crate	<b>laatikko</b>	[la:tikko]
basket	<b>kori</b>	[kori]

## 27. Materials

material	<b>aine</b>	[ajne]
wood	<b>puu</b>	[pu:]
wooden (adj)	<b>puinen</b>	[pujnen]
glass (n)	<b>lasi</b>	[lasi]
glass (as adj)	<b>lasinen</b>	[lasinen]



stone (n)	<b>kivi</b>	[kiui]
stone (as adj)	<b>kivinen</b>	[kiuinen]
plastic (n)	<b>muovi</b>	[muoui]
plastic (as adj)	<b>muovinen</b>	[muouinen]
rubber (n)	<b>kumi</b>	[kumi]
rubber (as adj)	<b>kuminen</b>	[kuminen]
material, fabric (n)	<b>kangas</b>	[kaŋas]
fabric (as adj)	<b>kankaasta</b>	[kaŋka:sta]
paper (n)	<b>paperi</b>	[paperi]
paper (as adj)	<b>paperinen</b>	[paperinen]
cardboard (n)	<b>kartonki</b>	[kartonki]
cardboard (as adj)	<b>kartonki</b>	[kartonki]
polyethylene	<b>polyetyleeni</b>	[polyetyle:ni]
cellophane	<b>kelmu</b>	[kelmu]
plywood	<b>vaneri</b>	[ʋaneri]
porcelain (n)	<b>posliini</b>	[posli:ini]
porcelain (as adj)	<b>posliininen</b>	[posli:ininen]
clay (n)	<b>savi</b>	[savi]
clay (as adj)	<b>savi-</b>	[savi]
ceramics (n)	<b>keramiikka</b>	[kerami:ikka]
ceramic (as adj)	<b>keraaminen</b>	[kera:minen]

## 28. Metals

metal (n)	<b>metalli</b>	[metalli]
metal (as adj)	<b>metallinen</b>	[metallinen]
alloy (n)	<b>seos</b>	[seos]
gold (n)	<b>kulta</b>	[kulta]
gold, golden (adj)	<b>kultainen</b>	[kultajnen]
silver (n)	<b>hopea</b>	[hopea]
silver (as adj)	<b>hopeinen</b>	[hopejnen]
iron (n)	<b>rauta</b>	[rauta]
iron (adj), made of iron	<b>rautainen</b>	[rautajnen]
steel (n)	<b>teräs</b>	[teræs]
steel (as adj)	<b>teräksinen</b>	[teræksinen]
copper (n)	<b>kupari</b>	[kupari]
copper (as adj)	<b>kuparinen</b>	[kuparinen]
aluminum (n)	<b>alumiini</b>	[alumi:ini]
aluminum (as adj)	<b>alumiini-</b>	[alumi:ini]
bronze (n)	<b>pronssi</b>	[pronssi]
bronze (as adj)	<b>pronssinen</b>	[pronssinen]
brass	<b>messinki</b>	[messin̩ki]
nickel	<b>nikkeli</b>	[nikkeli]
platinum	<b>platina</b>	[platina]
mercury	<b>elohopea</b>	[elo hopea]
tin	<b>tina</b>	[tina]

lead

zinc

**lyijy**

**sinkki**

[lyiy]

[sin̩kki]

# FINNISH CULTURE





# AHVENPATA

*Traditional perch stew prepared with root vegetables*



The word **ahven** (*perch*) refers to one of the most common and widely consumed fish in Finnish lakes, and **pata** (*pot or stew*) describes the method of slow cooking in a pot. Together, **ahvenpata** reflects both the natural abundance of Finland's waters and the home-based culinary traditions that developed around it. With more than 180,000 lakes, including **Saimaa** (*Lake Saimaa*), **Päijänne** (*Lake Päijänne*), and **Inarijärvi** (*Lake Inari*), perch has historically been a staple catch for both professional fishermen and families relying on subsistence fishing.

The preparation of **ahvenpata** typically involves fresh perch fillets cooked with root vegetables such as **peruna** (*potato*), **porkkana** (*carrot*), and **sipuli** (*onion*), along with cream or milk to create a rich broth. Herbs like **tilli** (*dill*) and **persilja** (*parsley*) are often added for flavor. The dish is slow-cooked, allowing the delicate flesh of perch to remain tender while the flavors of the vegetables and broth merge. This kind of cooking reflects the Finnish preference for simple but hearty meals that use local ingredients available through fishing, farming, and foraging.

In Finnish culinary history, perch has been one of the most consumed fish species because it is widely distributed across the country's lakes and rivers. Catching perch requires minimal equipment, often just a simple fishing rod or net, making it accessible to everyone from children to experienced anglers. Because of this availability, dishes like **ahvenpata** became common in households, particularly in rural Finland. While pike, zander, and salmon also hold significance in Finnish cuisine, perch has retained a special role due to its consistent presence and its mild but distinctive flavor.

The social context of **ahvenpata** is also important. Finnish food traditions emphasize togetherness, and meals like **ahvenpata** are often prepared for family gatherings or local celebrations. It is closely tied to the idea of **kotiruoka** (*home cooking*), where meals are made from scratch using ingredients sourced directly from nearby lakes and farms. During the summer, when fishing is most active, freshly caught perch can be immediately prepared into **ahvenpata**, making it not only a dish but also a seasonal ritual.

# ARKTIKA



**ARKTIKA** (*Arctic migration*) is a Finnish term used to describe the massive seasonal movement of birds across Finland as they travel between northern breeding grounds and southern wintering areas. Every spring and autumn, millions of birds pass over the country, creating one of the most remarkable natural spectacles visible in Finnish skies. The word **arktika** is derived from **Arktis** (*the Arctic*), emphasizing the connection to northern latitudes, and it has become a key concept in both ornithology and nature tourism in Finland.

Finland's geographical position makes it central to **arktika**. As a northern European country with extensive wetlands, forests, and coastline along the Baltic Sea, Finland lies on major migratory routes. Birds such as **hanhi** (*goose*), **joutsen** (*swan*), **kurki** (*crane*), and **sorsa** (*duck*) use Finland as a corridor when traveling between breeding and wintering grounds. Particularly in spring, when birds return from southern Europe and Africa, **arktika** peaks in areas like the **Pohjanlahti** (*Bothnian Bay*) and **Virolahti** (*Virolahti*), which are renowned for massive concentrations of migratory flocks.

The most iconic participants in **arktika** are the geese. Species such as **metsähanhi** (*bean goose*), **tundrahanhi** (*tundra bean goose*), and **merihanhi** (*greylag goose*) pass through Finland in large numbers, with flocks sometimes numbering in the tens of thousands. Birdwatchers gather at migration hotspots to witness the phenomenon of **hanhien muutto** (*migration of geese*). Another highlight is the movement of the **laulujoutsen** (*whooper swan*), Finland's national bird, whose return each spring is celebrated as a sign of changing seasons.

In addition to geese and swans, **arktika** includes raptors such as **hiirihaukka** (*common buzzard*) and **merikotka** (*white-tailed eagle*), as well as shorebirds like **liro** (*wood sandpiper*) and **suokukko** (*ruff*). The sheer diversity of species makes Finland one of Europe's most important locations for observing large-scale migration. The term **arktika** is commonly used by ornithologists and bird enthusiasts to describe both the event itself and the sites where it can be observed.

# AVANTO



**AVANTO** (*ice hole*) is a Finnish word referring to a hole cut into the ice of a lake, river, or sea during winter, most often associated with the practice of winter swimming. The word comes from the verb **avata** (*to open*), indicating an opening in the frozen surface. In Finland, where lakes and waterways freeze for several months each year, the **avanto** has had both practical and cultural importance, serving as a site for washing, fishing, and, most famously, for **talviuinti** (*winter swimming*).

The tradition of using an **avanto** for swimming is deeply rooted in Finnish culture. Many Finns believe that immersing oneself in icy water strengthens the immune system, improves circulation, and promotes overall well-being. For this reason, **avantouinti** (*ice hole swimming*) has developed into a popular recreational activity. People often combine it with the **sauna** (*sauna*), alternating between the intense heat of the sauna and the freezing water of the **avanto**. This contrast is thought to refresh the body and mind, reduce stress, and improve sleep quality. Winter swimming associations across Finland maintain public **avannot** (*ice holes*), ensuring that the tradition continues in a safe and organized manner.

From a practical perspective, **avanto** was historically essential in daily life. Before modern plumbing, villagers used **avannot** for collecting water in winter, washing clothes, and even bathing. Fishermen also relied on **avannot** to practice **pilkkiminen** (*ice fishing*), cutting openings in the ice to access fish beneath the frozen surface. These utilitarian uses made the **avanto** a central feature of winter survival in rural Finland. Even today, **pilkkiminen avannolla** (*ice fishing at an ice hole*) is a popular pastime, showing the continuity of this tradition.

For many Finns, taking a plunge into icy water represents **sisu** (*inner strength, resilience*), a key element of national identity. Entering the freezing **avanto** requires courage and endurance, qualities admired and celebrated in Finnish culture. In this sense, the practice is not only about physical benefits but also about mental fortitude and self-discipline. The association with **sisu** has made **avanto** an enduring image of Finnish determination.



# EUKONKANTO



**Eukonkanto** is a Finnish sporting event that has gained international fame for its unusual premise: a man carries a woman—traditionally his wife—through an obstacle course as quickly as possible. The word combines **eukko** (*wife, old woman*) and **kanto** (*carrying*), and together it describes this humorous but physically demanding contest. The most famous version is held annually in **Sonkajärvi**, where the official **Eukonkannon maailmanmestaruuskilpailut** (*World Wife-Carrying Championships*) take place.

The origins of **eukonkanto** are linked to local folklore. One explanation traces the practice to 19th-century tales of a man named Herkko Rosvo-Ronkainen, a bandit leader who was said to steal women from neighboring villages while carrying them on his back. Another theory suggests that the tradition comes from older village competitions where men tested their strength and endurance by carrying heavy sacks or livestock. Over time, the event evolved into the more playful **eukonkanto**, formalized as a sporting competition in the 1990s.

The rules of modern **eukonkanto** are specific. The course is 253.5 meters long and includes obstacles such as sand, fences, and a water pool. The woman must weigh at least 49 kilograms; if she is lighter, she must carry additional weight to meet the requirement. Several carrying techniques are permitted, but the most famous is the “**Estonian carry**,” where the woman hangs upside down with her legs around the man’s shoulders and her head near his lower back. This method provides balance and speed, making it the most common in competitive **eukonkanto**.

Culturally, **eukonkanto** reflects the Finnish sense of humor and creativity in sports. While Finland is well known for traditional activities like **hiihto** (*skiing*), **pesäpallo** (*Finnish baseball*), and **soutu** (*rowing*), quirky competitions such as **eukonkanto**, **saappaanheitto** (*boot throwing*), and **ilmakitara** (*air guitar*) also form part of the national sporting identity. The **Eukonkannon MM-kisat** (*World Wife-Carrying Championships*) in Sonkajärvi draws competitors from Europe, Asia, and North America, turning the small town into a global center of attention each summer. Winners receive prizes traditionally including the woman’s weight in beer, further emphasizing the humorous spirit of the event.



# HALTI



**HALTI** is the highest point in Finland, located in the far north near the border with Norway. The word **halti** comes from **Haltitunturi** (*Halti Fell*), part of the broader **tunturialue** (*fell area*) of Lapland. At 1,324 meters above sea level, **Halti** is not a mountain in the alpine sense but a **tunturi** (*fell*), characterized by rounded, treeless summits shaped by Ice Age glaciers. The actual peak of the fell lies on the Norwegian side, but Finland's highest point, at 1,324 meters, is on the slope of **Halti**. This location makes **Halti** a symbol of Finnish geography and identity, even though its absolute summit is technically in Norway.

For hikers, **Halti** is a popular destination and a highlight of the **Kaldoaivin erämaa-alue** (*Kaldoaivi Wilderness Area*) and the **Käsivarren erämaa** (*Arm Wilderness*). The most common route begins in **Kilpisjärvi** (*Kilpisjärvi*), a village in the municipality of Enontekiö. The trek to **Halti** is about 55 kilometers long and takes several days, crossing rocky terrain, rivers, and fells. The Finnish trekking route is known as the **Halti-reitti** (*Halti trail*), and it has become a classic among both domestic and international hikers seeking to experience the wilderness of Lapland.

Culturally, **Halti** holds symbolic value as the highest point of Finland. It represents the northern extremes of the country, where **tunturiluonto** (*fell nature*) dominates with sparse vegetation, cold winds, and wide-open horizons. The area around **Halti** is home to species such as **naali** (*Arctic fox*), **pääsky** (*swallow*), and **poro** (*reindeer*), connecting the fell to the traditional livelihoods of the **saamelaiset** (*Sámi people*). For the Sámi, the land around **Halti** has long been part of reindeer herding, fishing, and cultural traditions, emphasizing its importance beyond just being a geographic marker.

Historically, **Halti** has been part of discussions about borders and national identity. In 2015, during Finland's centenary celebrations, a Norwegian campaign suggested transferring the summit of **Halti** to Finland as a gift. While the proposal was not realized due to constitutional reasons, the gesture highlighted how **Halti** symbolizes friendship and shared geography between Finland and Norway. For Finns, the story reinforced pride in **Halti** as a natural landmark tied to independence and identity.

# HARJU



**HARJU** (*ridge*) is a Finnish geographical term referring to long, narrow ridges of sand and gravel formed by glacial activity during the Ice Age. These formations, known scientifically as **glasifluviaaliset muodostumat** (*glaciofluvial formations*), are common across Finland due to its extensive glacial history. During the last Ice Age, meltwater streams flowing under retreating glaciers deposited layers of sand, gravel, and stones. When the ice receded, these deposits remained as winding ridges stretching for kilometers across Finland. Well-known examples include **Salpausselkä** (*Salpausselkä Ridge*), a massive formation in southern Finland, and **Pyynikinharju** (*Pyynikki Ridge*) in Tampere, which is considered the world's highest gravel ridge. These **harjut** (*ridges*) are distinctive features that influence soil composition, vegetation, and land use.

Ecologically, **harju** landscapes provide unique habitats. Because the soil is sandy and well-drained, vegetation differs from surrounding clay or peat areas. **Mäntymetsä** (*pine forest*) is especially common on ridges, with **kanerva** (*heather*), **puolukka** (*lingonberry*), and **mustikka** (*blueberry*) thriving in the undergrowth. Some **harjut** also support rare plants adapted to dry conditions, making them important sites for biodiversity conservation. Finnish environmental authorities often designate ridges as **luonnonsuojelualueet** (*nature reserves*). **Harju** areas are also important for groundwater. Their porous soils act as natural reservoirs, storing and filtering water. Many towns rely on **harjuvesi** (*ridge water*) for clean drinking supplies. Protecting ridges from construction and sand extraction is therefore a key part of Finnish environmental policy.

In prehistory, people settled near ridges because the elevated land provided dry, stable ground and good visibility. Archaeological finds from **harjualueet** (*ridge areas*) include Stone Age dwellings and burial sites, showing their importance in early habitation. Later, ridges became natural routes for roads and paths, as their raised, sandy surfaces made travel easier compared to surrounding wetlands. Even today, many Finnish highways and railways follow the lines of **harjut**.

Recreationally, **harjut** are popular destinations for outdoor activities. Trails along ridges attract walkers, runners, and cyclists, offering scenic views of lakes and forests. In winter, **harjut** serve as routes for **hiihto** (*skiing*) and **lumikenkäily** (*snowshoeing*).



# HILLA



**HILLA** (*cloudberry*) is a golden-orange berry that grows in northern bogs and wetlands, especially in Lapland, and is one of the most highly prized wild foods in Finland. The word **hilla** is most commonly used in northern Finland, while elsewhere the berry is also known as **lakka** or **suomuurain**.

Ecologically, **hilla** thrives in **suo** (*bog*) environments, which cover large parts of Finland's landscape. The plant requires acidic soil and plenty of light, making open wetlands ideal habitats. Because **hilla** grows in remote and often difficult-to-access areas, picking it requires endurance and knowledge of the terrain. The berry is highly seasonal, ripening in July and August, when families and individuals head into the bogs for **hillastus** (*cloudberry picking*). This activity is part of the broader Finnish tradition of **marjastus** (*berry picking*), which also includes gathering **mustikka** (*blueberry*), **puolukka** (*lingonberry*), and **karpalo** (*cranberry*).

Culturally, **hilla** has been called “Lapland's gold” because of its rarity and high economic value. Unlike blueberries and lingonberries, which can be gathered in large quantities, **hilla** plants yield only a few berries each, and the annual harvest can vary greatly depending on weather conditions. As a result, **hilla** is one of the most expensive berries sold at Finnish markets. In Lapland, entire families travel long distances to collect **hilla**, sometimes camping near bogs to maximize the harvest. The value of the berry is reflected in sayings and folk expressions, where **hilla** symbolizes both wealth and patience.

In Finnish cuisine, **hilla** is used in a wide variety of dishes. The most traditional preparation is **hillo** (*jam*), often served with **leipäjuusto** (*Finnish squeaky cheese*), creating a classic combination of flavors. **Hillakiisseli** (*cloudberry kissel*) and **hillahillo kakku** (*cloudberry jam cake*) are also popular desserts. In festive contexts, **hillalikäööri** (*cloudberry liqueur*) and **hillaviini** (*cloudberry wine*) are produced, emphasizing the berry's role in special occasions. Because of its rich vitamin C content, **hilla** was historically important for preventing deficiencies during long winters, adding to its cultural and nutritional value.

# HIMMELI



**HIMMELI** (*straw decoration*) is a traditional Finnish ornament made of rye straw, most commonly hung from the ceiling at Christmas but also used in other festive contexts. The word **himmeli** comes from the Swedish **himmel** (*sky or heaven*), reflecting its suspended, airy design. A **himmeli** consists of geometric shapes—often diamond or prism forms—created by threading pieces of straw together with string or thread. This delicate decoration has become one of the most recognizable symbols of Finnish folk art and seasonal tradition.

Historically, **himmeli** was part of Christmas celebrations in rural Finland. Families prepared **himmelit** during late autumn using leftover **olkia** (*straw*) from the harvest. Hanging the decoration over the dining table was thought to bring **onni** (*good luck*) and ensure a good harvest in the coming year. The movement of the **himmeli** in the air was associated with prosperity, as it symbolized the balance and harmony of the household. In this sense, the **himmeli** was not only decorative but also had a ritual meaning tied to agricultural cycles and beliefs about fertility and abundance.

The making of a **himmeli** required patience and skill. Children often learned the craft from their elders, passing down techniques through generations. The simplest form was a single diamond shape, while more elaborate versions could consist of dozens of interconnected prisms forming large, complex structures. These larger **himmelit** could hang in place until the next Christmas, gradually accumulating symbolic power as enduring protectors of the household.

With modernization and the decline of straw use in farming, **himmeli** temporarily lost its central role in Finnish households. However, from the mid-20th century onward, efforts by folklorists, craft associations, and museums helped revive interest in the tradition. Today, **himmeli** making is taught in schools and craft workshops, and it is considered part of Finland's **kansanperinne** (*folk heritage*). Designers and artists have also reinterpreted the **himmeli**, using modern materials such as metal, glass, or plastic while keeping the geometric structure intact. This blend of tradition and innovation has kept the **himmeli** relevant in contemporary Finnish design. In Finnish language, **himmeli** is also used metaphorically.

# ILVES



**ILVES** (*lynx*) is Finland's national wild cat and one of the most emblematic predators of the country's forests. The Eurasian lynx, or **Lynx lynx**, is native to large parts of Europe and Asia, but in Finland it has a particularly strong cultural and ecological significance. The Finnish word **ilves** appears in folklore, literature, sports, and place names, reflecting the deep association of this animal with wilderness and national identity.

Ecologically, the **ilves** is a medium-sized predator with tufted ears, a short tail, and spotted fur that allows it to blend into its environment. In Finland, it inhabits **metsäalueet** (*forest areas*) across the country, from the southern woodlands to the northern reaches of Lapland. The population of **ilvekset** (*lynxes*) has grown in recent decades due to conservation efforts, making it the most common large carnivore in Finland today, surpassing even **susi** (*wolf*), **karhu** (*bear*), and **ahma** (*wolverine*). The **ilves** primarily hunts **jänis** (*hare*), **kauris** (*roe deer*), and various small mammals and birds, helping to regulate populations and maintain ecological balance.

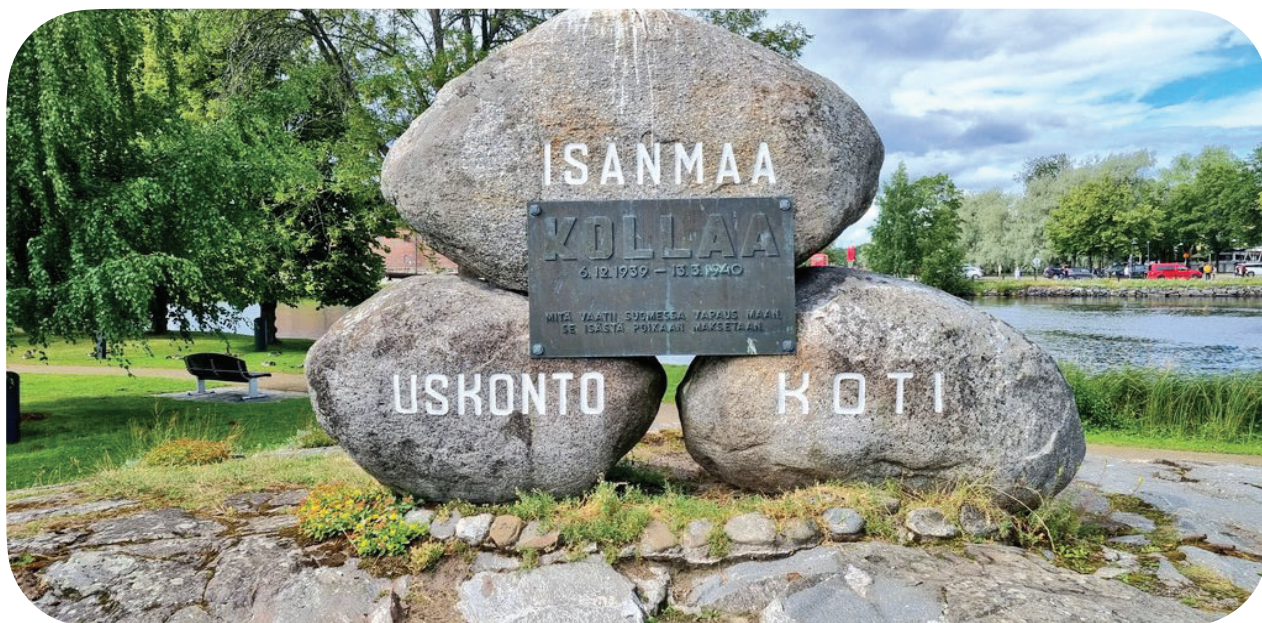
In Finnish folklore and mythology, the **ilves** is admired for its sharp eyesight, agility, and elusive nature. The animal is often described as intelligent and cunning, qualities reflected in proverbs such as *terävä kuin ilveksen silmä* (*sharp as a lynx's eye*). Unlike the wolf, which has sometimes been feared or vilified, the **ilves** tends to be viewed with respect and fascination.

Culturally, the **ilves** has been adopted as a symbol in many contexts. The city of Tampere is home to the ice hockey team **Tampereen Ilves** (*Tampere Lynx*), one of Finland's most successful and popular sports clubs.

From a conservation perspective, the **ilves** is a success story. In the 20th century, populations declined due to hunting and habitat loss, and the species was once rare in Finland. Legal protection, along with careful management, allowed the **ilves** population to recover, and it is now estimated at several thousand individuals. Controlled hunting is permitted under license, but the species is carefully monitored to ensure sustainable numbers.



# ISÄNMAA



**ISÄNMAA** (*fatherland*) is a central concept in Finnish national identity, expressing the emotional, cultural, and historical connection between citizens and their homeland. The word combines **isä** (*father*) and **maa** (*land*), reflecting a traditional way of describing one's country as something inherited and protected across generations. While the more neutral **kotimaa** (*home country*) emphasizes familiarity and belonging, **isänmaa** carries stronger connotations of duty, sacrifice, and patriotism.

Historically, the idea of **isänmaa** became especially significant in the 19th century during the rise of Finnish nationalism. Under Russian rule, intellectuals, writers, and poets began to use **isänmaa** to rally a sense of unity among Finns. In the poetry of **J. L. Runeberg** (*J. L. Runeberg*), considered Finland's national poet, **isänmaa** is celebrated as a land worth defending and cherishing. His poem "Vårt land" (*Our Land*), translated into Finnish as **Maamme**, later became Finland's national anthem. The word **isänmaa** appears repeatedly in patriotic literature of the time, shaping the vocabulary of independence.

During the wars of the 20th century, particularly the **Talvisota** (*Winter War*) and **Jatkosota** (*Continuation War*), the concept of **isänmaa** gained profound resonance. Defending the country against invasion was framed as a duty to the **isänmaa**, and soldiers often described their sacrifices in these terms. Monuments, memorials, and war cemeteries across Finland are inscribed with dedications to the defense of **isänmaa**, ensuring that the word is permanently tied to the collective memory of struggle and survival.

In education and civic life, **isänmaa** remains a key theme. On **Itsenäisyyspäivä** (*Independence Day*), celebrated on December 6, speeches, parades, and ceremonies often invoke **isänmaa** to highlight shared values of freedom and resilience. Schoolchildren learn songs such as *Oi maamme, Suomi* (*Oh our land, Finland*) and participate in discussions about the importance of contributing to the welfare of the **isänmaa**. The word also appears in the names of institutions and organizations, such as **Isänmaallinen kansanliike** (*Patriotic People's Movement*), reflecting its role in political and civic vocabulary.

# ITSENÄISYYSPÄIVÄ



**ITSENÄISYYSPÄIVÄ** (*Independence Day*) is Finland's national holiday, celebrated annually on December 6 to commemorate the declaration of independence from Russia in 1917. The word combines **itsenäisyys** (*independence*) and **päivä** (*day*), directly marking the significance of this historic event.

The origins of **Itsenäisyyspäivä** go back to December 6, 1917, when the Finnish Parliament, or **Eduskunta** (*Parliament*), formally adopted the Declaration of Independence. This was a crucial turning point in Finnish history, as the country moved from being an autonomous Grand Duchy under the Russian Empire to a fully independent nation. Since then, **Itsenäisyyspäivä** has been observed as the most important day of the Finnish calendar, carrying layers of historical and cultural meaning.

The celebration of **Itsenäisyyspäivä** is marked by national rituals. In the morning, the President of Finland participates in a flag-raising ceremony at **Töölöntori** (*Töölö Square*) in Helsinki, where the **siniristilippu** (*blue-cross flag*) is raised. Across the country, families and institutions light two candles in windows at dusk, a tradition known as **kaks kynttilää** (*two candles*). This custom dates back to the 1920s and 1930s, and during wartime it carried the added symbolism of solidarity and resistance. For many Finns, the candlelight represents both the sacrifice of earlier generations and the brightness of independence.

Another central element of **Itsenäisyyspäivä** is the presidential reception, known as **Linnan juhlat** (*Castle Ball*), held at the Presidential Palace in Helsinki. This formal event is broadcast live on national television and watched by millions of Finns each year. It includes a greeting line where guests—politicians, veterans, cultural figures, and invited citizens—shake hands with the President and First Lady. Commemoration of war veterans also plays a major role in **Itsenäisyyspäivä**. Services are held at **sankarihaudat** (*heroes' graves*), and wreaths are laid at memorials across the country. The memory of the **Talvisota** (*Winter War*) and **Jatkosota** (*Continuation War*) is closely tied to the holiday, as Finland's independence was preserved through immense sacrifices during those conflicts.



# JOKAMIEHEN OIKEUS



**JOKAMIEHEN OIKEUS** (*everyman's right*) is a uniquely Finnish legal and cultural principle that grants all people the freedom to roam in nature, regardless of land ownership, as long as they respect the environment and the property of others. The word is a compound of **jokamies** (*everyman*) and **oikeus** (*right*), literally meaning “the right of every person.”

Under **jokamiehenoikeus**, anyone in Finland is free to walk, ski, cycle, or camp temporarily on private or public land without needing the landowner's permission. It also allows the gathering of natural products such as **marjat** (*berries*), **sienet** (*mushrooms*), and certain **yrtit** (*herbs*). For example, Finns exercise this right when picking **mustikka** (*blueberry*), **puolukka** (*lingonberry*), or **hilla** (*cloudberry*), making foraging an integral part of national culture. Fishing with a simple rod (**onkiminen**) and swimming in lakes are also included, ensuring that natural resources are accessible to all.

The principle of **jokamiehenoikeus** is not unlimited; it comes with responsibilities. Activities that cause damage, disturbance, or exploitation are prohibited. For instance, it is not allowed to cut down trees, take moss or soil, disturb wildlife, or enter people's yards (**piha-alue**) or cultivated fields. Campfires (**nuotio**) can only be made with permission or in designated areas, except in emergencies. The balance between freedom and responsibility is central, often summarized by the phrase *ei saa häiritä eikä vahingoittaa* (*do not disturb, do not harm*).

Historically, **jokamiehenoikeus** developed from centuries of rural life in which survival depended on access to forests, waters, and natural resources. In sparsely populated Finland, land was abundant and communities relied on hunting, fishing, and foraging. Over time, these practices evolved into a recognized customary right that later became supported by legislation and environmental policy. Unlike many countries where private property strictly limits access, Finland maintained **jokamiehenoikeus** as a shared cultural value. The freedom to enter forests, pick berries, and hike across landscapes is seen not only as a right but also as a national tradition.



# JOUTSEN



**JOUTSEN** (*whooper swan*) is Finland's national bird and a powerful symbol of beauty, resilience, and the natural environment. The word refers specifically to the **Cygnus cygnus**, a large white swan native to Eurasia that migrates through and breeds in Finland. Unlike the smaller mute swan, which is more common in western Europe, the **joutsen** is known for its loud, trumpeting call and its strong presence in Finnish lakes, rivers, and wetlands.

Historically, the **joutsen** was nearly eradicated in Finland due to hunting in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Its feathers and meat were highly valued, and populations declined rapidly. By the 1930s, the bird had become so rare that it was considered almost extinct in Finland. Protection measures were introduced, and the species slowly recovered. Today, the **laulujoutsen** (*whooper swan*) is once again widespread across the country, especially in northern and central regions. Its recovery is considered one of the great successes of Finnish wildlife conservation.

Culturally, the **joutsen** is deeply rooted in folklore, literature, and music. In the national epic **Kalevala**, swans appear as mystical birds inhabiting lakes and rivers, often associated with purity and transcendence. In Finnish poetry, the **joutsen** frequently symbolizes freedom and endurance, its long migrations embodying strength and continuity. The composer **Jean Sibelius** wrote **Joutsenet** (*The Swans*), a tone poem inspired by their calls, capturing their haunting and majestic presence. For many Finns, the sight and sound of the **joutsen** are tied to seasonal changes, marking spring when they return from migration and autumn when they depart.

The **joutsen** became Finland's official national bird in 1981 after a public vote organized by **BirdLife Suomi** (*BirdLife Finland*). Its choice reflected not only ecological importance but also the bird's symbolic value in national consciousness. The image of the **joutsen** has since appeared in logos, emblems, and even currency. The Finnish one-markka coin issued in the 1990s featured two flying swans, reinforcing their status as a national emblem.

# JUHANNUS



**JUHANNUS** (*Midsummer festival*) is one of Finland's most important annual celebrations, marking the summer solstice and the longest days of the year. The word derives from **Johannes Kastaja** (*John the Baptist*), as the festival was originally tied to the Christian feast of St. John, but in Finland the celebration has largely taken on cultural and seasonal meanings rather than religious ones. In 1955, it was designated as Finland's official **liputuspäivä** (*flag day*), and the blue-and-white **Suomen lippu** (*Finnish flag*) is flown across the country.

Traditionally, **Juhannus** was celebrated to honor fertility, harvest, and the life-giving power of the sun. Before Christianity, Finns marked the summer solstice with rituals intended to secure good crops, healthy livestock, and strong family life. Bonfires, known as **kokko** (*midsummer bonfire*), were lit to ward off evil spirits and to bring prosperity. These fires remain a central feature of **Juhannus** today, especially in lakeside and coastal areas where large **kokot** are built and burned at night, creating dramatic scenes against the bright midsummer sky.

One of the defining features of **Juhannus** is the **keskiyön aurinko** (*midnight sun*). In northern Finland, the sun does not set at all during this period, while in the south daylight lasts nearly the entire night. This natural phenomenon makes **Juhannus** unique, as celebrations continue through the night without darkness. People gather at summer cottages (**mökki**) by lakes and in the countryside, emphasizing the connection between **Juhannus** and Finnish outdoor life. The **sauna** plays a central role, with families and friends taking a sauna bath before plunging into the lake or sea.

In older times, young women collected seven flowers and placed them under their pillows to dream of their future spouse. Rituals involving **vihta** (*birch whisk*) and **kukkaseppeleet** (*flower crowns*) were also common, connecting **Juhannus** to fertility and romance. Modern **Juhannus** celebrations often include music festivals, dances, and communal gatherings. Cities like Helsinki and Tampere may organize public events, but many Finns leave urban areas to spend the holiday in rural cottages. Alcohol consumption is traditionally high during **Juhannus**, and unfortunately, accidents on roads and water are common, leading authorities to remind citizens of safety each year.



# JUUSTOLEIPÄ



**JUUSTOLEIPÄ** (*squeaky cheese*), also called **leipäjuusto** (*bread cheese*), is one of Finland's most distinctive traditional dairy products. The word combines **juusto** (*cheese*) and **leipä** (*bread*), reflecting its flat, bread-like shape. Known for its unique squeaky texture when chewed, **juustoleipä** has long been a specialty of northern Finland, especially in Ostrobothnia and Lapland, though today it is enjoyed throughout the country.

Traditionally, **juustoleipä** was made from **ternimaito** (*colostrum*), the nutrient-rich milk produced by cows after calving. This gave the cheese its firm consistency and slightly sweet flavor. In modern times, regular cow's milk, goat's milk, or reindeer milk can be used instead, but the colostrum version is still considered the most authentic. The cheese is baked or grilled until golden brown spots appear on the surface, giving it its characteristic look. The process of making **juustoleipä** is simple but requires careful handling to preserve its distinctive squeaky quality.

Culturally, **juustoleipä** is often associated with hospitality and celebration. It was traditionally served at festive occasions such as weddings, christenings, and holidays. Its connection to northern pastoral life and dairy traditions makes it a symbol of Finnish rural heritage. Today, it is commonly served warm, sometimes reheated in an oven or on a grill, and paired with various accompaniments.

One of the most famous combinations is **leipäjuusto ja lakkahillo** (*bread cheese with cloudberry jam*). The sweet-tart flavor of **hilla** (*cloudberry*) contrasts with the mild taste of the cheese, creating a pairing that is widely considered a Finnish delicacy. This combination is so iconic that it is often offered to visitors as an introduction to traditional Finnish cuisine. Other toppings include **puolukkahillo** (*lingonberry jam*) and **hunaja** (*honey*), each highlighting the versatility of **juustoleipä**.

**Juustoleipä** is readily available in supermarkets and restaurants, not only as a dessert but also as a side dish or breakfast item. It is sometimes added to salads or served with coffee, showcasing its adaptability in both traditional and contemporary contexts. The cheese can also be frozen and reheated without losing its texture, making it practical for households and commercial use.

# KAAMOS



**KAAMOS** (*polar night*) is a Finnish word that describes the period in northern Finland when the sun does not rise above the horizon for days or even weeks at a time. This phenomenon occurs within the Arctic Circle, especially in Lapland, where **kaamosaika** (*polar night period*) can last from late November to mid-January depending on the latitude. The word **kaamos** carries not only a scientific meaning but also cultural, emotional, and even psychological associations, making it one of the most expressive terms in the Finnish language.

Astronomically, **kaamos** happens because of the Earth's axial tilt. In northern Finland, towns such as **Utsjoki**, **Inari**, and **Sodankylä** experience weeks without direct sunlight during winter. Even though the sun does not rise, the day is not completely dark. A few hours of **hämärä** (*twilight*) occur around noon, when the sky glows with shades of blue and pink. Combined with **revontulet** (*northern lights*), this creates one of the most unique natural lightscapes in the world.

For centuries, people in Lapland adjusted their lives to long periods of darkness by relying on fire, candles, and later electricity for light. Traditional activities like **sauna**, **käsityöt** (*handicrafts*), and storytelling helped communities pass the time during **kaamosaika**. In modern Finland, the period is used for both reflection and recreation, with many embracing winter sports such as **hiihto** (*skiing*), **lumikenkäily** (*snowshoeing*), and **pilkkiminen** (*ice fishing*) despite the lack of sunlight.

The term **kaamosmasennus** (*polar night depression*) describes seasonal affective disorder (SAD), a condition linked to lack of sunlight during winter months. Light therapy lamps, vitamin D supplements, and outdoor exercise are commonly recommended to cope with this condition. At the same time, many Finns view **kaamos** positively, seeing it as a peaceful season that emphasizes coziness and rest, balanced by the brightness of **keskiyön aurinko** (*midnight sun*) in summer.

Tourism in Lapland has turned **kaamos** into an attraction. Visitors from around the world travel to experience the darkness, twilight colors, and **revontulet**. Activities such as husky safaris, reindeer sledding, and stays in glass igloos are marketed as **kaamos-elämykset** (*polar night experiences*).



# KALEVALA



**KALEVALA** (*Finnish national epic*) is the foundational work of Finnish literature and a cornerstone of national identity. Compiled by **Elias Lönnrot** in the 19th century, it is based on oral poetry collected from Karelia and other regions where ancient **runolaulu** (*rune singing*) traditions survived. Published in 1835 and expanded in 1849, the **Kalevala** consists of 50 songs or **runot** (*runes*) with over 22,000 verses. It weaves together myths, legends, and heroic tales that had been transmitted orally for centuries, giving Finland a literary epic comparable to the **Iliad** or the **Edda**.

The central characters of the **Kalevala** embody themes of wisdom, craftsmanship, and struggle. **Väinämöinen**, the wise old singer, symbolizes knowledge and power through words and music. **Ilmarinen**, the eternal smith, represents craftsmanship and the ability to create through labor, most famously forging the **sampo** (*mythical artifact of prosperity*). **Lemminkäinen**, the reckless adventurer, illustrates passion and bravery, while **Louhi**, the Mistress of Pohjola, embodies the forces of opposition and mystery. These figures together create a mythic world where humans, gods, and nature interact constantly.

The **Kalevala** played a crucial role in Finland's national awakening. During the 19th century, when Finland was an autonomous Grand Duchy under Russian rule, the epic gave Finns a shared cultural heritage and literary identity. Writers, artists, and composers drew inspiration from it, helping to build the idea of a distinct Finnish nation. **Jean Sibelius**, Finland's most famous composer, created works such as **Kullervo**, **Lemminkäinen Suite**, and **Pohjola's Daughter**, all inspired by **Kalevala** themes. Painters like **Akseli Gallen-Kallela** produced iconic visual interpretations of **Kalevala** scenes, which remain central in Finnish art history.

The **Kalevala** preserves the style of oral poetry through **alkusointu** (*alliteration*) and **parallelismi** (*parallelism*). Lines often repeat with slight variations, creating rhythm and reinforcing meaning. This style reflects the oral origins of the material and makes it distinct from later written poetry. **Tolkien** drew from **Kalevala** when developing his mythology for Middle-earth, particularly in the story of Túrin Turambar, which parallels Kullervo's tragic tale.

# KANTELE



**KANTELE** (*traditional Finnish string instrument*) is the national instrument of Finland and one of the most important symbols of Finnish cultural heritage. It belongs to the family of plucked zithers and is closely associated with the **Kalevala** (*Finnish national epic*), where it plays a central role in the stories of **Väinämöinen** (*Väinämöinen*), the wise hero who is said to have created the first **kantele** from the jawbone of a giant pike and the hair of a maiden. This mythical origin links the instrument directly to Finnish identity, music, and mythology.

Traditionally, the **kantele** was a small instrument carved from a single piece of wood, often **kuusi** (*spruce*) or **koivu** (*birch*), and strung with a few strings made from horsehair, copper, or later steel. Early **kanteleet** had 5 to 15 strings and were used in rural households for personal enjoyment, storytelling, and local celebrations. The gentle, bell-like sound of the **kantele** made it ideal for accompanying **runolaulu** (*rune singing*), the oral poetry tradition that forms the basis of the **Kalevala**.

Over time, the instrument evolved. Modern concert **kanteleet** can have up to 39 or even 47 strings, with sophisticated tuning mechanisms, enabling them to play a wide repertoire of classical, folk, and contemporary music. Despite these changes, the small 5-string **kantele** remains popular for teaching children and introducing beginners to Finland's musical traditions. The simplicity of the instrument—just a few strings on a wooden body—allows anyone to produce melodies quickly, keeping the tradition alive in schools and cultural programs.

Culturally, the **kantele** has always symbolized peace, introspection, and connection to nature. In the **Kalevala**, when Väinämöinen plays the first **kantele**, people, animals, and even the natural world stop to listen, enchanted by its sound. In modern Finland, the **kantele** still holds a strong place in both folk and professional music. Ensembles such as the **Kanteleliitto** (*Kantele Association*) and performers like Martti Pokela and Eva Alkula have expanded its repertoire, blending traditional sounds with jazz, classical, and experimental music. The **kantele** has also been integrated into global music scenes, where it is admired for its unique timbre and cultural depth.



# KARHU



**KARHU** (*brown bear*) is regarded as the king of the Finnish forest and holds a special place in both cultural tradition and natural history. The brown bear, or **Ursus arctos**, is Finland's largest carnivore and has long been revered, feared, and respected in folklore. The Finnish word **karhu** itself is significant, because Finns traditionally avoided calling the bear by its true name. Instead, they used numerous euphemisms and honorifics such as **otso** (*dear one*), **mesikämmen** (*honey-palm*), **kontio** (*dweller of the woods*), and **metsän kuningas** (*king of the forest*).

In ancient Finnish belief systems, the **karhu** was seen as a sacred creature with connections to the spiritual world. Rituals, known as **karhunpeijaiset** (*bear feasts*), were held after a successful hunt. During these ceremonies, hunters honored the bear by treating its remains with reverence, singing ritual songs, and returning its skull to a sacred pine tree called **peijaispetäjä** (*sacrificial pine*). The purpose was to appease the bear's spirit so that it would be reborn and return to the forest, ensuring continuity of both the species and the hunting tradition. This practice reflects the respect and fear with which the **karhu** was viewed in pre-Christian Finland.

Ecologically, the **karhu** is a keystone species of the Finnish **metsä** (*forest*) ecosystem. Its diet is omnivorous, including **marjat** (*berries*), **kasvit** (*plants*), **hyönteiset** (*insects*), and occasionally **hirvi** (*moose*) or **poro** (*reindeer*). Brown bears play an important role in dispersing seeds, especially through eating berries such as **mustikka** (*blueberry*) and **puolukka** (*lingonberry*). They are solitary animals with large territories, and Finland's bear population is concentrated mainly in the eastern and northern regions, near the border with Russia.

Modern attitudes toward the **karhu** balance conservation with management. After being nearly eradicated in the 19th century due to overhunting, Finland now maintains a stable population of several thousand bears. Controlled hunting is permitted through a licensing system, but the species is carefully monitored. At the same time, bear-watching tourism has become popular in regions like **Kuhmo** and **Kuusamo**, where visitors can observe **karhut** safely from hides, supporting local economies while promoting conservation awareness.



# KASKI



**KASKI** (*slash-and-burn agriculture*) refers to an ancient Finnish method of farming where forested land was cleared by burning trees and undergrowth to create temporary fields. The word itself comes from the verb **kasketa** (*to clear by burning*), and it was once a cornerstone of Finnish rural life, especially before more permanent forms of agriculture became dominant.

The **kaski** system worked by selecting a patch of forest, usually dominated by **koivu** (*birch*) or **mänty** (*pine*), and felling the trees. After the wood dried, it was burned, and the ashes created a fertile layer rich in nutrients such as potash. Crops like **ruis** (*rye*), **nauris** (*turnip*), and later **ohra** (*barley*) were sown directly into the ash-covered soil. For a few years, the field produced high yields without the need for fertilizers, but eventually the nutrients were depleted, and the land was abandoned, returning to forest. Farmers would then move on to new areas, repeating the process.

Historically, **kaski** was vital in regions where soil fertility was otherwise poor, particularly in **Savo** and **Karjala** (*Savonia and Karelia*). It allowed farming communities to survive in landscapes where permanent fields (**peltoviljely**) were difficult to establish. The practice shaped settlement patterns, as families often moved frequently in search of new land to burn. This contributed to the expansion of Finnish settlement eastward and northward during the medieval and early modern periods.

**Kaski** farming was both destructive and regenerative. On one hand, it required constant clearing of forests, which could lead to large-scale deforestation. On the other hand, the abandoned fields encouraged biodiversity, creating **kaskimaisema** (*slash-and-burn landscapes*) with open meadows and light forests that supported species such as **niittykasvit** (*meadow plants*) and **perhoset** (*butterflies*). By the 19th century, **kaski** farming declined due to population growth, stricter forestry laws, and the spread of permanent field agriculture. The introduction of the potato and new farming techniques made **kaski** less necessary, and authorities discouraged it because of the damage it caused to valuable timber resources. Today, conservationists sometimes recreate controlled **kaskipoltto** (*slash-and-burn burning*) to maintain these habitats, preserving a type of cultural landscape that would otherwise disappear.

# KATAJA



**KATAJA** (*juniper bush*) is one of the most characteristic shrubs of the Finnish landscape, widely distributed across the country from the southern archipelago to the northern fells. The plant thrives in dry, rocky soils, meadows, and open forests. **Kataja** is a pioneer species, often colonizing open and barren ground where few other plants can survive. Its needle-like leaves and tough berries adapt well to Finland's harsh climate. The berries, technically seed cones, ripen over two years and are used not only in the reproduction of the plant but also by humans for flavoring. Birds such as **rastas** (*thrush*) and **tilhi** (*waxwing*) feed on **katajanmarjat** (*juniper berries*), spreading the seeds across wide areas. Juniper shrubs also provide shelter for small mammals and birds, making them an important part of Finland's biodiversity.

**Kataja** has a long tradition in Finnish food culture. **Katajanmarjat** have been used as a spice to flavor meat, particularly game dishes such as **hirvi** (*moose*) and **poro** (*reindeer*). They are also used in the production of **sahti**, a traditional Finnish farmhouse beer, where juniper branches and berries lend a distinct flavor. In earlier times, water was filtered through **katajaoksat** (*juniper branches*) to improve its taste and safety. Even today, juniper remains an important seasoning in regional cuisines and artisanal beverages.

In folk medicine, **kataja** was believed to have protective and healing properties. Juniper smoke, produced by burning twigs, was used to cleanse homes, barns, and saunas, driving away disease and evil spirits. The practice of **savustus katajalla** (*smoking with juniper*) continues in some food traditions, such as smoking fish or cheese. Juniper teas and infusions were also used as remedies for coughs, digestive problems, and joint pain. While not all uses had scientific basis, modern research confirms that juniper contains aromatic oils with antibacterial properties. In handicrafts, **kataja** wood is valued for its durability and pleasant aroma. Small household items such as cups, spoons, and decorative carvings were often made from juniper. The scent of **katajapuu** (*juniper wood*) lingers for years, adding to its appeal in both functional and decorative objects.



# KEIHÄS

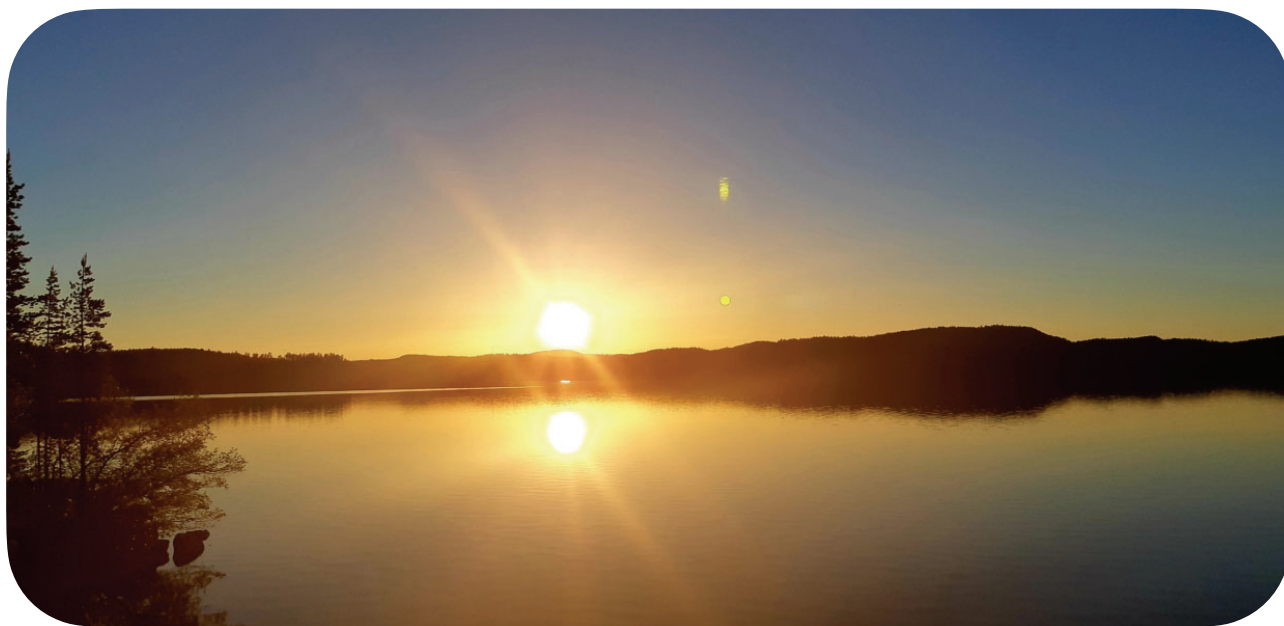


**KEIHÄS** (*javelin*) is both an ancient weapon and a modern sporting implement, and in Finland it carries special significance because of the country's long tradition of success in javelin throwing. The word itself is old, appearing in Finnish folklore, hunting practices, and mythology, where **keihäs** was used for both combat and subsistence. In modern times, **keihäänheitto** (*javelin throw*) has become one of Finland's most iconic athletics events, producing multiple Olympic and world champions. The **keihäs** was one of the most important tools for survival in Finland's forests. Before the widespread use of firearms, it was used for **metsästys** (*hunting*) of large animals such as **hirvi** (*moose*) and **karhu** (*bear*). Archaeological finds show that stone- and iron-tipped **keihäät** were common in prehistoric Finland, and their use persisted well into the medieval period.

In modern culture, however, Finland is best known for its achievements in **keihäänheitto**. From the early 20th century, Finnish athletes began to dominate international javelin competitions. **Jonni Myyrä** won Olympic gold in 1920 and 1924, establishing Finland's reputation in the event. Later champions included **Tapio Rautavaara** (1948 Olympic gold), **Pauli Nevala** (1964 Olympic gold), and **Seppo Rätty**, who won multiple World Championship medals in the 1980s and 1990s. Perhaps the most famous is **Aki Parviainen**, who became World Champion in 1999, and **Tero Pitkämäki**, World Champion in 2007. The dominance of Finns in **keihäs** is often explained by cultural and environmental factors. Finland's outdoor lifestyle, emphasis on athletics in schools, and tradition of physical labor are seen as contributing to strong throwing abilities. Moreover, the pride associated with **keihäänheitto** reflects national values of resilience and determination, aligning with the broader cultural concept of **sisu** (*grit and perseverance*).

Success in the **keihäs** event also carried symbolic weight during the 20th century, when Finnish athletes brought international recognition to a small, newly independent nation. Technologically, Finland also contributed to the development of the **keihäs** itself. Finnish engineers and coaches played a role in designing javelins with improved aerodynamics. At one point in the 1980s, Finnish-made javelins set numerous world records, until rule changes by the International Association of Athletics Federations required redesigns to reduce flight distances for safety reasons.

# KESKIYÖNAURINKO



**KESKIYÖNAURINKO** (*midnight sun*) is one of the most remarkable natural phenomena in Finland, occurring in the summer months when the sun remains visible at midnight and does not set at all in the far north. The word combines **keskiyö** (*midnight*) and **aurinko** (*sun*), directly describing this period of continuous daylight. The **keskiyön aurinko** is most famously experienced in Lapland, above the **napapiiri** (*Arctic Circle*), where it lasts from late May to mid-July depending on latitude.

Astronomically, the **keskiyön aurinko** is caused by the tilt of the Earth's axis. During the summer solstice, the northern hemisphere is tilted toward the sun, keeping it above the horizon even at midnight in high latitudes. In Finland, the length of continuous daylight increases the farther north one goes: in **Utsjoki**, the northernmost municipality, the sun stays up for more than two months, while in southern Finland, such as **Helsinki**, the sun does set but twilight lasts nearly all night, creating the impression of continuous light.

In ancient Finnish beliefs, it was linked to fertility, growth, and renewal. Agricultural communities relied on the long summer days for planting and harvesting, and festivals such as **Juhannus** (*Midsummer*) were tied to the peak of light. Folklore tells of rituals performed under the **keskiyön aurinko**, such as young women collecting flowers to dream of future spouses or people lighting **kokko** (*bonfires*) to protect crops and ensure prosperity.

Modern Finns continue to celebrate the **keskiyön aurinko** through outdoor life. Activities such as **yöttömän yön juhlat** (*festivals of the nightless night*), **kalastus** (*fishing*), **melonta** (*canoeing*), and **retkeily** (*hiking*) are popular during this period. For many, the endless daylight is an opportunity to spend extended time in nature, especially at **mökki** (*summer cottages*) by lakes and forests. Sports events, concerts, and cultural gatherings are often scheduled at night under the midnight sun, emphasizing its uniqueness.

Psychologically, the **keskiyön aurinko** has both positive and challenging effects. Many people feel energized and experience improved moods due to the abundance of light, a sharp contrast to the **kaamos** (*polar night*) of winter. However, some struggle with sleep during this period, requiring blackout curtains or sleep masks. The interplay between light and darkness is a defining rhythm of Finnish life, shaping annual cycles and cultural practices.

# KIELO



**KIELO** (*lily of the valley*) is Finland's national flower, chosen for its delicate beauty, strong fragrance, and deep symbolic meaning. The word refers to **Convallaria majalis**, a perennial plant with small white bell-shaped blossoms that bloom in late spring and early summer. Found widely in Finnish forests, meadows, and shaded areas, the **kielo** is cherished as a marker of seasonal renewal and as a cultural emblem tied to purity, love, and Finnish identity.

Ecologically, the **kielo** thrives in **sekametsä** (*mixed forest*) habitats, often under **koivu** (*birch*) and **kuusi** (*spruce*). Its preference for shady, moist environments makes it common in the Finnish landscape. The plant spreads through underground rhizomes, forming dense colonies that can last for decades. While the flowers are highly fragrant and attractive, all parts of the **kielo** are poisonous if ingested, a fact long known in Finnish folk medicine. Despite its toxicity, it has been valued for its medicinal properties, historically used in controlled doses to treat heart conditions due to the presence of cardiac glycosides.

Culturally, the **kielo** holds a privileged place in Finnish symbolism. It was officially declared the national flower in 1967 after a nationwide vote, beating other candidates such as **hilla** (*cloudberry*). Its selection reflects both its natural abundance and its representation of Finnish values: simplicity, resilience, and quiet elegance. The **kielo** blooms around **Juhannus** (*Midsummer*), making it closely tied to Finland's most celebrated seasonal holiday. Bouquets of **kielo** are often associated with graduations, weddings, and other festive occasions, reinforcing its role as a flower of love and celebration.

In folklore, the **kielo** has been connected to purity and renewal. Its bright white flowers were sometimes placed in homes to ward off misfortune and to bring good luck. The fragrance of **kielo** is also linked to romance; in older traditions, young men might present sprigs of **kielo** to women as tokens of affection. In poetry and songs, the **kielo** symbolizes innocence, renewal, and the fleeting beauty of summer. In modern times, **kielo** continues to appear in public symbolism and branding. For example, municipalities and organizations sometimes adopt it as an emblem of regional identity or environmental values. Perfumes and cosmetics featuring **kielon tuoksu** (*the scent of lily of the valley*) are also popular, underscoring its strong fragrance as part of its cultural identity.