

Last-minute Polish

Teach[®]
Yourself

Last-minute Polish

Elisabeth Smith

CD recorded at Alchemy Studios, London

Tracks: **1** Introduction, **2** Meet and greet, **3** Getting about, **4** I want ..., **5** A quick test, **6** Shopping, **7** When?, **8** I have a problem, **9** At a restaurant, **10** Great Polish challenge

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Speak Last-minute Polish with just 50 words

If you are holidaying in Poland for a week or two, you may not fancy a whole language course. Or perhaps you are off to Poland in less than a month and are getting anxious about not being able to speak the language.

Let Last-minute Polish come to the rescue. This last-minute language lifeline will help you to learn what you need to get by on your trip. In less than one week, you'll learn just enough to help you get about and not get lost, know the lingo for shopping, have a meal without indigestion, even meet and greet the locals.

With 50 useful words plus a few short sentences and some inspired body language you can be part of the action!

It's all on this fun CD.

I've put some 30 years of teaching experience into this course. I know how people learn, what they need to know, and how quickly they get bored. That's why I decided to write this easiest and shortest ever, last-minute audio course.

Fly with Andy and Magda to Poland, and see how many words you can pick up. Then take a look at the booklet – it's just a few pages that include:

- ▶ Some Polish words that you may have picked up on a previous visit.
- ▶ A few bonus words that you don't have to learn.
- ▶ 50 NEW WORDS – THE ONES THAT YOU'LL NEED. They'll make all the difference.
- ▶ Some useful short sentences – say three words in a row without getting stuck. You'll amaze your friends.

Words you may know already

cześć *hello*

dzień dobry *good day*

dziękuję *thank you*

dobrze *well, okay*

do widzenia *goodbye*

tak *yes*

kawa z mlekiem *a coffee with milk*

proszę *please*

autobus *the bus*

bank *the bank*

targ or **rynek** *the market*

supermarket *the supermarket*

park *the park*

plaża *the beach*

wino, z winem *wine, with wine*

złoty, złote *Polish currency*

jutro *tomorrow*

karta kredytowa *the credit card*

bilet *ticket*

BONUS WORDS YOU DON'T HAVE TO LEARN

tramwaj *the tram* **bajgiel** *bagel* **taksówka** *taxi*

chod my *let's go, we go* **legia Warsaw** *well-known Warsaw football team* **o kurczę!** *oh dear! (lit. oh chicken!)*

biedronka *well-known Polish store*

zapiekanka *special Polish sandwich*

wołowina – **baranina** – **wieprzowina** *beef – mutton – pork*
wyjazd/wyjście *exit*

On the CD ...

MEET AND GREET, GIVING YOUR NAME, HAVING COFFEE

cześć *hello*

dzień dobry *good day*

co słychać? *how are you?/how is it going?*

dziękuję *thank you*

dobrze *well, okay*

bardzo dobrze *very well*

jestem (+ first name) (e.g. I'm Jo) *I am*

nazywam się ... (+ surname) *my name is ...*

do widzenia *goodbye*

do zobaczenia *until later/see you later*

tak *yes*

kawa z mlekiem *a coffee with milk*

proszę *please*

przepraszam *excuse me*

dwa *two*

GETTING ABOUT, FINDING YOUR WAY

gdzie jest ...? *where is ...?*

autobus *the bus*

przystanek autobusowy *the bus stop*

pociąg *the train*

dworzec *the station*
bank *the bank*
bankomat *a cash point, an ATM*
targ or **rynek** *the market*
supermarket *the supermarket*
park *the park*
tramwaj *the tram*
ulica *the main road, the street*
plaża *the beach*
toalety *the toilets*
gdzie są toalety? *where are the toilets?*
sklep *a shop*
gdzie są sklepy? *where are the shops?*
wino, winem *wine*
prosto *straight ahead*
na prawo *on the right*
na lewo *on the left*
daleko *far*
czy to daleko? *is it far?*
wyjazd/wyjście *exit*

I WANT ..., A QUICK TEST

chcę *I want*
chciał(a)bym *I would like*
nie *no/not/don't*
bajgiel *bagel*
taksówka *taxi*
ten (*masc*)/**ta** (*fem*)/**to** (*neuter*) *this one*

świetnie *great, brilliant, excellent*
iść (*on foot*)/**jechać** (*using transport*) *to go*
kupić *to buy*
chcę iść/chcę jechać *I want to go to*
chciał(a)bym iść/jechać *I would like to go*
chcę kupić *I want to buy*
chciał(a)bym kupić *I would like to buy*
do *to, to the*
chodźmy *let's go, we go*
legia Warsaw *well-known Warsaw football team*
o kurczę! *oh dear! (lit. oh chicken!)*

SHOPPING ... OR HAVING A DRINK

biendronka *well-known Polish store*
czy masz .../czy jest ...? *do you have ...?/is there ...?*
drogi *expensive*
duży *big*
więcej *more*
mniej *less*
pół kilo *half a kilo*
to wszystko? *is that all?, nothing more*
piwo, piwa *beer, beers*
i *and*
jeden dwa trzy cztery pięć sześć siedem
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
osiem dziewięć dziesięć jedenaście dwanaście
8 9 10 11 12
ile kosztuje ...? *how much is ...?*

złoty, złote *Polish currency*

bilet *ticket*

dużo *much*

woda gazowana/niegazowana *sparkling/still water*

trochę *a little*

WHEN? AT WHAT TIME?

o której godzinie? *at what time?*

o ... at ...

o drugiej *at two*, **o szóstej** *at six*, **o dziesiątej** *at 10*

teraz *now*

za pięć minut *in five minutes*

jutro *tomorrow*

I HAVE A PROBLEM

chwilczkę *one moment*

przykro mi *I am sorry*

karta kredytowa *the credit card*

tutaj *here*

mam *I have*

mam problem *I have a problem*

nie mam pieniędzy *I don't have any money*

nic *nothing*

AT A RESTAURANT

do picia? *to drink?/what would you like to drink?*

czerwone wino *red wine* **białe wino** *white wine*

butelka *a bottle*

kieliszek *glass (for alcohol)*

zapiekanka *special Polish sandwich*

ryba *fish*

kurczak *chicken*

mięso *meat*

wołowina – baranina – wieprzowina *beef – mutton – pork*

do jedzenia? *to eat?/what do you want to eat?*

smakuje mi/nie smakuje mi *I like .../I don't like ... (food)*

podoba mi się ... *I like ... (people)*

rachunek *the bill*

Your 50 new words

bardzo dobrze *very well*

jestem (+ *first name*) (e.g. *I'm Jo*) *I am*

nazywam się ... (+ *surname*) *my name is ...*

do zobaczenia *until later, see you later*

przepraszam *excuse me*

dwa *two*

przystanek autobusowy *the bus stop*

pociąg *the train*

dworze *the station*

bankomat *a cash point, an ATM*

ulica *the main road, the street*

toalety *the toilets*

sklep *a shop*

prosto *straight ahead*

na prawo *on the right*

na lewo *on the left*

daleko *far*

nie *no/not/don't*

ten (*masc*)/**ta** (*fem*)/**to** (*neuter*) *this one*

świetnie *great, brilliant, excellent*

iść (*on foot*)/**jechać** (*using transport*) *to go*

kupić *to buy*

do *to, to the*

drogi *expensive*

duży *big*

więcej *more*

mniej *less*

pół kilo *half a kilo*

to wszystko *is that all?, nothing more*

piwo, piwa *beer, beers*

i *and*

jeden dwa trzy cztery pięć sześć siedem

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

osiem dziewięć dziesięć jedenaście dwanaście

8 9 10 11 12

dużo *much*

woda gazowana/niegazowana *sparkling/still water*

trochę *a little*

o której godzinie? *at what time?*

o ... at ...

teraz *now*

za pięć minut *in five minutes*

chwilczkę *one moment*

tutaj *here*

nic *nothing*

czerwone wino *red wine*

białe wino *white wine*

butelka *a bottle*

kieliszek *glass (for alcohol)*

ryba *fish*

kurczak *chicken*

mięso *meat*

rachunek *the bill*

Your quick sentences

Co słychać? *How are you?/How is it going?*

Gdzie jest ...? *Where is ...?*

Gdzie są toalety? *Where are the toilets?*

Gdzie są sklepy? *Where are the shops?*

Czy to daleko? *Is it far?*

Chcę ... *I want ...*

Chciał(a)bym ... *I would like ...*

Chcę iść/chcę jechać *I want to go to ...*

Chciał(a)bym iść/jechać ... *I would like to go ...*

Chcę kupić ... *I want to buy ...*

Chciał(a)bym kupić ... *I would like to buy ...*

Czy masz .../Czy jest ...? *Do you have ...? Is there ...?*

Ile kosztuje ...? *How much is ...?*

Przykro mi. *I am sorry.*

Mam ... *I have ...*

Mam problem. *I have a problem.*

Nie mam pieniędzy. *I don't have any money.*

Do picia? *To drink?/What would you like to drink?*

Do jedzenia? *To eat?/What would you like to eat?*

Smakuje mi .../Nie smakuje mi ... *I like .../I don't like ... (food)*

Podoba mi się ... *I like ... (people)*

The Last-minute quiz

Now *you* are talking!

Answer these 25 questions and get your Last-minute certificate!

How to score

- ▶ Say each answer out loud. Don't write anything down.
- ▶ Check if it was correct or half correct and award yourself between 0 and 4 points for each answer. Don't worry if, in your version, you added or omitted phrases like 'please' or 'excuse me' in comparison with the answer key. You don't need to count these.
- ▶ At the end, add all the points and see how well you have done.
 - ▷ 60–9 points: good
 - ▷ 70–9 points: very good
 - ▷ 80–9 points: excellent
 - ▷ 90–100 points: outstanding

You can do the quiz three times. Then write your best result on your certificate.

- 1 Say 'good day', then ask 'How are you?'

Travel tip

Kissing is taken very seriously in Poland. Family and friends kiss three times on the cheek on meeting, and older men may still kiss the back of a lady's hand.

- 2 Someone asks you how you are. Say 'thanks' and add that you are very well.
- 3 Count the even numbers from 2 to 12.
- 4 Ask someone where a cashpoint is, and add 'is it far?'
- 5 Give the opposite of *na prawo*.
- 6 You are looking for a tram. Ask someone politely.
- 7 You want to go to Warsaw (*Wrocław*). Ask for the cost of the fare.

Travel tip

Trains and buses are an inexpensive way to see more of the country. The local trains are extremely cheap but seats are uncomfortable. For longer distances choose the fast, express or intercity trains.

- 8 Order yourself a coffee with milk.
- 9 You want to tell someone that you will see him later. What do you say?
- 10 Ask someone for the way to the shops.
- 11 Place an order for chicken and a glass of white wine.
- 12 Introduce yourself with your surname.
- 13 You are in a taxi and want to go somewhere straight ahead. What do you say?

Travel tip

Beware when using zebra crossings. In Poland it's not obligatory to stop and most cars don't. You need to wait for a gap in the traffic.

- 14 Count backwards from 12 to 7.
- 15 You've been eating out. The bill isn't right. What would you say?
- 16 Give the opposite of *więcej*.
- 17 Say 'at ten o'clock'.
- 18 The waiter is hovering to take your order. Ask him to return in five minutes.

Travel tip

Tipping in restaurants is customary if the service was worth it. Add 10 per cent to the bill and leave it in cash on the table if paying by credit card. Taxi drivers don't expect tips but can overcharge to compensate for this. Always ask for a receipt.

- 19 A sign in a shop says *nie karta kredytowa*. What does it mean?
- 20 You want a beer and a glass of red wine. Ask for it.
- 21 Tell someone that you don't have any money.
- 22 You are looking for the toilets. Ask for them.
- 23 Tell a sales assistant that you want nothing else.

Travel tip

If you are souvenir hunting for something typically Polish you may want to look at amber and silver jewellery. Ask for a *Cepelia* shop.

- 24 Ask someone where the main road is.
- 25 You are at the *przystanek autobusowy*. You want to know at what time there's a bus to the (do) supermarket. Ask the question.

Answers

- 1 *Dzień dobry. Co słychać?*
- 2 *Dziękuję. Bardzo dobrze*
- 3 *dwa cztery sześć osiem dziesięć dwanaście*
- 4 *Gdzie jest Bankomat? Czy to daleko?*
- 5 *Na lewo.*
- 6 *Przepraszam, gdzie jest tramwaj?*
- 7 *Chcę iść/Chcę jechać Wrocław. Ile kosztuje bilet?*
- 8 *Kawa z mlekiem.*
- 9 *Do zobaczenia.*
- 10 *Gdzie są sklepy?*
- 11 *Chciał(a)bym kurczak i kieliszek białe wino.*
- 12 *Nazywam się... (your surname).*
- 13 *Prosto, (proszę).*
- 14 *Dwanaście, jedenaście, dziesięć, dziewięć, osiem, siedem.*
- 15 *Przepraszam, przykro mi, mam problem.*
- 16 *Mniej.*
- 17 *O dziesiątej.*
- 18 *Za pięć minut.*
- 19 *No credit cards*
- 20 *Piwo i butelka zerwone wino.*
- 21 *Nie mam pieniędzy.*

- 22 *Gdzie są toalety?*
- 23 *To wszystko, dziękuję.*
- 24 *Gdzie jest ulica?*
- 25 *O której godzinie autobus do supermarket?*

50 words of Polish to say a hundred things!
... and when you're back from your trip – how did it go?
Dobrze? Dobrze!
e-mail me via my website www.elisabeth-smith.co.uk

Credits

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“Global scale” of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: learning, teaching, assessment (CEFR)

Proficient User	TY Level 6 CEFR LEVEL C2	Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.
	TY Level 5 CEFR LEVEL C1	Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.
Independent User	TY Level 4 CEFR LEVEL B2 (A Level)	Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
	TY Level 3 CEFR LEVEL B1 (Higher GCSE)	Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.
Basic User	TY Level 2 CEFR LEVEL A2: (Foundation GCSE)	Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.
	TY Level 1 CEFR LEVEL A1	Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

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