Introduction: Shortly about Slovenian language
(postaviti v trikotnike ali oblacke ali nekaj podobnega kot tukaj-samo ne isto seveda, stran 5, https://annainslovenia.files.wordpress.com/2020/12/week-1-7-days-of-basic-slovene.pdf)

The language
- the Slovene language is a Western South Slavic language
- in Slovene, there is a standard Slovene and there are regional spoken varieties (more then 48 dialects and subdialects divided in seven regions). The result is that the speakers of one dialect might have problems in understanding a speaker of another dialect

Writing
- in Slovenian, each letter exists in two forms: capital letter and small letters. Capital letters are used as the first letter of a sentence and as the first letter of a proper name (for ex. people, animals, countries, cities, rivers, continents and citizens of a country). Small letters are the usual form of writing words in sentences.
- always write a comma before the adverbs »ki (who/which), ko (when), ker (because), da (that), če (if)«
- never put a comma before »in, ter, pa (and)«

The alphabet
- the Slovenian alphabet has 25 letters. The letters W, Q, X, Y does not exist in Slovene, but it has three new letters:
  Č (pronounced as ch in “cheap”)
  Š (pronounced as sh in “sugar”)
  Ž (pronounced as zh in “vision”).
  The Slovene word »strešica« (literally: little roof) is the name of the mark above those letters
- here you can listen to the pronunciation of the Slovenian alphabet https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pajs7usdLfA&t=99s
- here you can listen to the pronunciation of any Slovenian words https://forvo.com/languages/sl/

The pronunciation
- in Slovene, stress is not predictable and it can take place on any syllable (there is no rule that would determine which syllable in the word is stressed). But notice that some words (compound words) might have more accents.
- The same word, stressed differently, can have a different meaning and the Slovene language share many words with the Croatian language, where the only thing that will make the difference, is the prosody. That is why it is important to learn, since the beginning, where the stress falls.
- in Slovene it is important to pronounce every syllable. Dividing a word in syllables might help you while pronouncing long or difficult words
- Vowels in Slovene are called »samoglasniki«. There are 5 vowels but and 8 sounds. They might be long or short, stresses or unstressed: a, e (close or open), i, o (close or open), u and Ă (schwa). Each vowel is usually represented by only one letter, and one letter represents only a small number of vowels.
- Consonants in Slovene are called »soglasniki«. There are 20 consonants but and 21 sounds. The majority of them represent only one sound (exception are L and V).
  Note:
  - The letter /h/ is not silent
  - The letter /v/ is pronounced as:
    1. /v/ when the letter /v/ is located before vowels and before the consonants /r/
2. [u] when the letter /u/ is after a vowel, at the beginning of the word and before a consonant.
3. [w] when the letter /w/ does not appear next to vowel, at the end of the word, after a vowel or before a consonant (except for /r/ and /l/)
   - The letter /l/ is pronounced as [w] after another consonant or at the end of a word

Tikanje-vikanje, the formal and informal language
- in Slovene, the usage of the pronoun »ti« refers to the 2nd person of the singular while »vi« refers to the 2nd person of the plural. But it is possible to use the pronoun »vi« to refer to the 2nd person of the singular while using the formal language. In written documents, the pronoun »Vi« is always transcribed with a capital letter.
  
This social distinction is important to express the respect to the interlocutor. Slovenians use if they wish to mark the social distance, to start a conversation with someone that they do not know or when they are talking to an older person or a hierarchical superior.
  
The »Vi« can be switched in »ti« just if there is a common agreement between the two persons or if the older person propose that change.

Word order inside the sentence
- In Slovene, the order is usually associated with context and breakdown by topicality and it depends on the speaker. That means that the sentence begins with the element that comes to mind first - depending on the previous sentence or circumstances of communication, and at the end of the sentence is the core of what is said. The basic word order in a sentence is subject - verb - complements

When there are more complements, the order depends again on the breakdown by topicality or on what the speaker want to emphasize. Therefore, we put less important information first and more important information last.

Parts of the speech
- in Slovene, nouns might refer to people, things, animals, plants and abstract concepts. Case, gender and number mark nouns.

**Declensions**
- Slovene does not have the articles to refer to nouns but it knows declensions. There are six cases: nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, locative and instrumental. For foreigner students, this is one of the most challenging concepts to learn, but declensions are also problematic for Slovenians. Learning declensions by associating each grammatical case to the specific questions and prepositions is very useful.
- Here you can check the correct declension of any Slovenian word [https://viri.cjvt.si/sloleks/slv/](https://viri.cjvt.si/sloleks/slv/)

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<th>Declension</th>
<th>Question</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>nominative - imenovalnik</td>
<td>KDO ali KAJ / WHO or WHAT? (Who /What is coming?)</td>
<td>We are talking about the subject of the sentence (person or object doing something), the agent of an action or the holder of a state. Related verbs: biti-to be, ne biti-not to be, imenovati-se-to name, postati-to become, ostati-to stay</td>
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<td>2nd</td>
<td>genitive - rodilnik</td>
<td>KOGA ali ČESA? / WHO(M) or WHAT? (Who /What I don't like?)</td>
<td>A very important property of the genitive is that we use it when we deny a sentence. Namely, the rule applies that we use the genitive when we have a number from 5 onwards, a unit of measurement or a word that indicates quantity in front of the noun. We also use the genitive while we have double nouns (noun 1 + noun 2). The Slovene noun + noun is like two nouns connected with the preposition “of” in English. In this case, the second noun is always declined in the second case.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case</td>
<td>Preposition</td>
<td>Example/Comment</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>dative - dajalnik</td>
<td>KOMU ali ČEMU? / TO WHOM or WHAT? (To whom you give something?)</td>
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<td>In most cases, the dative is related to verbs that express that someone is receiving something (congratulation, threat, response, help, etc.). Related verbs: bližati se - to approach, čestitati - to congratulate, čuditi se - to be surprised, gabi - to disgust, gnisiti se - to sicken, groziti - to threaten, izmikati se - to elude, izogniti se - to avoid, mahati - to wave, maščevati se - to take revenge, nagajati - to misbehave, odgovoriti - to answer, pomagati - to help, slediti - to follow, zaupati - to trust, etc.</td>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>accusative - tožilnik</td>
<td>KOGA ali KAJ? / WHO(M) or WHAT? (Who /What do you see?)</td>
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<td>The fourth declension is used very often, especially with transitive verbs. Transitive verbs are those in which the action passes to the object. This means that an event or activity is related to an object. In such verbs, in addition to the subject (noun in the first declension), we also have an object in the second, third, or fourth declension. But be careful! In certain sentences, the use of the declension depends on the verb or the meaning of the whole sentence. Prepositions v-in and na-on are followed by a noun in the fourth declension, when we talk about moving or directions (“Kam grem?” - Where I am going?). But when we talk about a particular place or position, the prepositions v-in and na-on will be followed by a noun in the fifth declension (“Kje sem?” - Where am I?). Related prepositions: v- in/into, na-on, čez- over, skozi- through, zoper- against, po-for etc.</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>locative - mestnik</td>
<td>(O) KOM ali (O) ČEM? / ABOUT WHOM or WHAT? (Who /What are you talking about?)</td>
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|      |             | As the name suggests, the locative is used when we talk about a place, location or space. We are talking about the state where someone is when an act is being done. The easiest way to help yourself is with the questions “Pri kom ali pri čem stojim?” - Next to who I am stading? Or “Kje sem?” - Where am I?
| 6th | instrumental - orodnik | (S) KOM ali (S) ČIM? / WITH WHOM or WHAT? (With whom /what are you going?) z orodjem | The instrumental is used when talking about a tool, means or accompaniment. As already mentioned, the declension of the noun depends on the meaning of the sentence. Related prepositions: z/s-with, za-behind, nad-above, pod-under, pred-before, med-between |

**Gender**

- Nouns in Slovene are divided into 3 genders: *moški spol*-masculine, *ženski spol*-feminine, *srednji spol*-neuter. Each gender has different declension patterns, for a total of 10 declension forms.
  - Masculine (M): *Libanon*-Libanon → ending typically in ø
  - Feminine (F): *Slovenija*-Slovenia → ending typically in -a
  - Neuter (N): *Združeno kraljestvo*-United Kingdom → ending typically in -o / -e

**Number**

- Slovene knows 3 numbers: *ednina*-singular, *dvojina*-dual and *množina*-plural.
  - **Singular:** On je Slovenec. (He is Slovenian.)
  - **Dual:** Onadva sta Slovenca. (They or The two of them are Slovenian.)
  - **Plural:** Oni so Slovenci. (They are Slovenian.)

**Verbs**

- Slovene knows three tenses: present, past, future.
  - **Past:** Predpreteklik
  - **Present:** Preteklik
  - **Future:** Predodihnik

- Verbs can be categorized on the bases of their endings:
  - **I. of the infinitive***:
    - **TI:** *biti*-to be, *pisati*-to write, *delati*-to, *študirati*-to study, *razumeti*-to understand, *spati*-to sleep
    - **ČI:** *teči*-to run, *vreči*-to throw, *peči*-to bake, *reči*-to say
    - **Please notice that actually the endings of the verbs on –TI are: -ATI, -ETI, -ITI.***
  - **II. of the present**:
    - **AM:** *delam*-I am working, *študiram*-I am studying
    - **EM:** *berem*-I am reading, *razumem*-I am understanding
    - **IM:** *spim*-I am sleeping, *mislim*-I am thinking
- JEM: umijem-I am washing, pijem-I am drinking

- The grammatical categories of the verb are:
  - person: 1st, 2nd, 3rd person
  - number: singular, dual, plural
  - tense: present, past, future
  - mood: indicative, imperative, conditional
  - aspect: perfective, imperfective
  - transitivity: transitive, intransitive
  - voice: active, passive

- in Slovene, verbs are classified based on the perfective and imperfective aspect in order to replace the present continuous and the past continuous. The perfective verbs express that an action is completed (so we focus on the result of the action) and the imperfective verbs express the ongoing process (so we focus on the state).
  - Imperfective verbs = When I am in the middle of an ongoing process, I can use the verb začeti (to start) and nehati (to finish)
  \[ \text{Pisati = Pišem e-mail.} \quad \text{Write = I am writing an e-mail.} \] → I will use the question \[ \text{Kaj se dogaja? (What is happening?)} \]
  - Perfective verbs = I want to emphasize the end or the result/quantity.
  \[ \text{Napisati = Moram napisati mail.} \quad \text{Write= I have to write an e-mail.} \] → I will use the question \[ \text{Kaj se zgodi? (What will happen in the end?)} \]

- Slovene has reflexive verbs that English has not. Reflexive verbs are those who direct object is the same as its subject. This mean that a reflexive verb has the same semantic agent and patient (typically represented syntactically by the subject and the direct object).
  \[ \text{Se umijem.} \quad \text{→ I am washing myself.} \]

- In Slovene, transitive verbs are used with a direct object. They transmit the action to the object. In contrast, intransitive verbs never do not have the object but they have only the subject. We use intransitive verbs when we do not want to emphasize who caused the action.

**Adjectives**
- In Slovene, adjectives refer to a property of the noun which they qualify or determine. They may indicate the quality, the type or the property.
- The grammatical categories of the adjective are:
  - gender: masculine, feminine, neuter
  - case
  - number: singular, dual, plural
  - definiteness / indefiniteness
  - comparison: three or two degrees

**Pronouns**
- In Slovene, nouns stands for another word or phrase where the meaning is recoverable from the context are. They are divided into personal (we can determine the person) and impersonal (we cannot determine the person).
- In Slovene, it is not mandatory to use always the pronoun next to the verb because the verb already show to which person it refering to.
- The grammatical categories of the adjective are:
  - gender: masculine, feminine, neuter
  - case
- number: singular, dual, plural

Notice that personal pronouns can also be assigned a person.

**Usefull questions**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Koga?</td>
<td>Kako?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Who?</td>
<td></td>
<td>How?</td>
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<td>Česa?</td>
<td>Koliko?</td>
<td></td>
<td>What?</td>
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<td>How much/many?</td>
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<td>Komu?</td>
<td>Kje?</td>
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<td>To who?</td>
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<td>Where?</td>
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<td>Čemtu?</td>
<td>Kam?</td>
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<td>To what?</td>
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<td>Where?</td>
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