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HUNGARIAN LESSON

Basic Conversation 1 • Chapter 12 • Trains, Buses & Tickets

Hungarian Basic Conversation 1

Chapter 12 · Trains, Buses & Tickets



Getting Around: Trains, Buses & Tickets — Közlekedés

The last chapter takes you onto trains, trams and buses: buying a ticket, finding the right platform, asking about delays and changes, and getting off at the right stop. It finishes with a Course Complete recap of the whole course. Every line has a respelling beneath it.

① Buying a Ticket — Jegyvásárlás

A:

Jó napot kívánok! Egy jegyet kérek
Debrecenbe.

*YOH NAW-pot KEE-vah-nok! EHDY YEH-
dyeht KAY-rehk DEH-breh-tsehn-beh.*

Good day! A ticket to Debrecen, please.

B:

Csak oda, vagy oda-vissza?

CHAWK O-daw, VAWDY O-daw-VIHS-saw?

One way, or return?

A:

Csak oda.

CHAWK O-daw.

One way.

B:

Négyezer forint.

NAYDY-eh-zehr FO-rint.

That's four thousand forints.

② Which Platform? — Melyik vágány?

A:

Elnézést, melyik vágányról indul a
vonat Budapestre?

*EHL-nay-zaysht, MEH-yihk VAH-gahny-rohl
IHN-dul aw VO-nawt BOO-daw-pehsh-treh?*

Excuse me, which platform does the train for
Budapest leave from?

B:

A harmadik vágányról.

AW HAWR-maw-dihk VAH-gahny-rohl.

From platform three.

A:

Köszönöm.

KEU-seu-neum.

Thank you.

③ What Time? — Hánykor indul?

A:

④ Delay and Changes — Késés

A:

Hánykor indul a következő vonat

Debrecenbe?

HAHNY-kor IHN-dul aw KEU-veht-keh-zeuu

VO-nawt DEH-breh-tsehn-beh?

What time does the next train to Debrecen
leave?

B:

Tíz tizenötör.

TEEZ TIH-zehn-eut-kor.

At 10:15.

A:

Köszönöm.

KEU-seu-neum.

Thank you.

A vonat késik?

AW VO-nawt KAY-shihk?

Is the train late?

B:

Igen, tíz percet késik.

IH-gehn, TEEZ PEHR-tseht KAY-shihk.

Yes, it is ten minutes late.

A:

Van átszállás?

VAWN AHT-sahl-lahsh?

Is there a change?

B:

Nem, közvetlen vonat.

NEHM, KEUZ-veht-lehn VO-nawt.

No, it's a direct train.

⑤ On the Tram — A következő megálló

A:

Melyik a következő megálló?

MEH-yihk aw KEU-veht-keh-zeuu MEHG-ahl-

loh?

Which is the next stop?

B:

A Keleti pályaudvar.

AW KEH-leh-tih PAHY-yaw-ud-vawr.

The Keleti station.

A:

Itt leszálok. Köszönöm.

IHTT LEH-sahl-lok. KEU-seu-neum.

I'm getting off here. Thank you.

⑥ A Seat Reservation — Helyjegy

A:

Egy helyjegyet is kérek.

EHDY HEHY-yeh-dyeht IHSH KAY-rehk.

I'd like a seat reservation too.

B:

Első vagy második osztály?

EHL-sheuu VAWDY MAH-sho-dihk OS-tahy?

First or second class?

A:

Második osztály, kérem.

MAH-sho-dihk OS-tahy, KAY-rehm.

Second class, please.



Key Phrases — Fontos kifejezések

SITUATION	HUNGARIAN	NOTES
A ticket to ..., please	Egy jegyet kérek ...-ba / -be / -ra / -re. <i>EHDY YEH-dyeht KAY-rehk</i>	Debrecenbe, Budapestre
One way / return	Csak oda. / Oda-vissza. <i>CHAWK O-daw / O-daw-VIHS-saw</i>	also <i>retúr</i> (REH-toor)
Which platform?	Melyik vágányról indul? <i>MEH-yihk VAH-gahny-rohl IHN-dul</i>	
What time does it leave?	Hánykor indul? <i>HAHNY-kor IHN-dul</i>	
Is it late?	Késik? <i>KAY-shihk</i>	A vonat késik.
Is there a change?	Van átszállás? <i>VAWN AHT-sahl-lahsh</i>	
Which is the next stop?	Melyik a következő megálló? <i>MEH-yihk aw KEU-veht-keh-zeuu MEHG-ahl-loh</i>	
I'm getting off here	Itt leszálllok. <i>IHTT LEH-sahl-lok</i>	
A seat reservation	Egy helyjegyet kérek. <i>EHDY HEHY-yeh-dyeht KAY-rehk</i>	



Transport Words — Közlekedés

WORD	HUNGARIAN	SAY IT
train	vonat	VO-nawt
bus	busz	BUS
tram	villamos	VIHL-law-mosh

WORD	HUNGARIAN	SAY IT
metro	metró	MEHT-roh
taxi	taxi	TAWK-sih
ticket	jegy	YEHDY
pass	bérlet	BAYR-leht
seat reservation	helyjegy	HEHY-yehdy
platform; track	vágány / peron	VAH-gahny / PEH-ron
railway station	pályaudvar	PAHY-yaw-ud-vawr
stop	megálló	MEHG-ahl-loh
delay	késés	KAY-shaysh
change (of train)	átzállás	AHT-sahl-lahsh
first / second class	első / második osztály	EHL-sheuu / MAH-sho-dihk OS-tahy

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Platform Numbers — Vágányok

Platforms use the **ordinal numbers** (first, second, third) before the word *vágány*: a harmadik vágány ("platform three"). The same ordinals you used for dates in Chapter 7, but without the date ending.

PLATFORM	HUNGARIAN	SAY IT
1	az első vágány	AWZ EHL-sheuu VAH-gahny
2	a második vágány	AW MAH-sho-dihk VAH-gahny
3	a harmadik vágány	AW HAWR-maw-dihk VAH-gahny
4	a negyedik vágány	AW NEHDY-eh-dihk VAH-gahny

PLATFORM

HUNGARIAN

SAY IT

5

az ötödik vágány

AWZ EU-teu-dihk VAH-gahny



"To" a City: -ba/-be and -ra/-re

To say you are going to a place, add **-ba** / **-be** ("into", from the "in" series you know) or **-ra** / **-re** ("onto", from the "on" series): Debrecenbe, Szegedre, Budapestre. As with -ban / -on in Chapter 4, each town has its own series, so learn the ending with the name.

abc

Three More Verbs — Igék

	INDULNI (TO DEPART)	UTAZNI (TO TRAVEL)	SZÁLLNI (TO BOARD; TO GET OFF)
én (I) <i>AYN</i>	indulok <i>IHN-du-lok</i>	utazom <i>U-taw-zom</i>	szálllok <i>SAHL-lok</i>
te (you) <i>TEH</i>	indulsz <i>IHN-duls</i>	utazol <i>U-taw-zol</i>	szállsz <i>SAHLS</i>
ő, Ön <i>EUU, EUN</i>	indul <i>IHN-dul</i>	utazik <i>U-taw-zihk</i>	száll <i>SAHLL</i>
mi (we) <i>MIH</i>	indulunk <i>IHN-du-lunk</i>	utazunk <i>U-taw-zunk</i>	szállunk <i>SAHL-lunk</i>
ti (you, pl.) <i>TIH</i>	indultok <i>IHN-dul-tok</i>	utaztok <i>U-taws-tok</i>	szálltok <i>SAHLL-tok</i>
ők (they) <i>EUUK</i>	indulnak <i>IHN-dul-nawk</i>	utaznak <i>U-tawz-nawk</i>	szállnak <i>SAHLL-nawk</i>



Vocabulary — Szókincs

20 key words. Read the Hungarian first, then check the respelling (CAPITALS = the stressed first syllable).

#	HUNGARIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	jegy	YEHDY	ticket	noun
2	bérlet	BAYR-leht	pass; season ticket	noun
3	vonat	VO-nawt	train	noun
4	busz	BUS	bus	noun
5	villamos	VIHL-law-mosh	tram	noun
6	vágány	VAH-gahny	platform; track	noun
7	pályaudvar	PAHY-yaw-ud-vawr	railway station	noun
8	megálló	MEHG-ahl-loh	stop	noun
9	következő	KEU-veht-keh-zeuu	next	adj
10	indul	IHN-dul	departs; leaves	verb
11	érkezik	AYR-keh-zihk	arrives	verb
12	késik	KAY-shihk	is late	verb
13	átszállás	AHT-sahl-lahsh	change (of train)	noun
14	osztály	OS-tahy	class	noun
15	helyjegy	HEHY-yehdy	seat reservation	noun
16	csak oda	CHAWK O-daw	one way	phrase
17	oda-vissza	O-daw-VIHS-saw	return; round trip	phrase
18	utazik	U-taw-zihk	travels	verb
19	leszálok	LEH-sahl-lok	I get off	verb
20	közvetlen	KEUZ-veht-lehn	direct	adj

Real Hungarian Tip — Seat Reservations on InterCity Trains

Hungarian long-distance **InterCity** trains usually require a **helyjegy** (seat reservation) as well as your ticket, so say **Egy helyjegyet is kérek** when you buy. The national railway is the **MÁV** (*MAHV*), and long-distance buses are run by **Volán**.

Always Carry a Valid Ticket

Ticket inspectors (**ellenőr**, *EHL-leh-neuur*) are common on Budapest transport and on trains, and fines for travelling without a valid ticket are high. Buy your ticket or pass before you board, and check the instructions for validating a paper ticket (*érvényesít*) in the machine on board.

Terminus Stations Are Named

A train for **Budapest** usually arrives at one of the three big stations, **Keleti**, **Nyugati** or **Déli** (Chapter 10), so check *which one* your ticket names. **Pályaudvar** means "railway yard", the word on the main station signs.

Köszönöm and Szívesen to the Driver

On trams and buses in Hungary it is normal to greet the driver and fellow passengers with a quiet **Jó napot!** when boarding, and to thank staff with **Köszönöm**. A polite **Elnézést!** is always the right way to pass someone in a crowded vehicle.

Try It Yourself — Gyakorlatok

Say each answer out loud first, then click to check.

1. Ask for a one-way ticket to Debrecen.

▼ Show answer

Egy jegyet kérek Debrecenbe. Csak oda.

2. Ask which platform the train leaves from.

▼ Show answer

Melyik vágányról indul a vonat?

3. Ask what time the next train leaves.

▼ Show answer

Hánykor indul a következő vonat?

4. Ask whether the train is late, and whether there is a change.

▼ Show answer

Késik a vonat? · Van átszállás?

5. Say "I'm getting off here".

▼ Show answer

Itt leszállok.

6. What do you ask for if the train needs a seat reservation?

▼ Show answer

Egy helyjegyet is kérek.

Course Complete — Gratulálok!

You have finished Hungarian Basic Conversation 1. In twelve chapters you went from reading Hungarian aloud to handling the main situations of a first trip: greetings, introductions, numbers, travel, food, shopping and hotels. Here is the whole journey.

CHAPTER	TOPIC	YOU CAN NOW...
1	Greetings & Goodbyes	You can now greet, thank, apologise and say goodbye, formally and informally.
2	Introducing Yourself	You can now say your name, ask someone's and use lenni.

CHAPTER	TOPIC	YOU CAN NOW...
3	Numbers, Age & Contact Details	You can now count to 100, say your age and phone number.
4	Where You're From	You can now say where you come from and live, using -ban/-ból.
5	Talking About Your Family	You can now describe your family with the possessive endings.
6	Talking About Your Job	You can now say what you do and where you work.
7	Days, Dates & Time	You can now say the day, date and time, including fél három.
8	Ordering at a Café	You can now order with the -t ending and pay.
9	Shopping & Prices	You can now ask prices in forint and compare.
10	Asking for Directions	You can now ask the way and understand balra, jobbra, egyenesen.
11	Booking a Hotel	You can now book and check in with Szeretnék and Foglalásom van.
12	Trains, Buses & Tickets	You can now buy tickets and find your platform.

What Next?

You have finished **Hungarian Basic Conversation 1**. Next steps: a future **Hungarian Basic Conversation 2**, which moves on to daily routines, plans, descriptions and the past tense, and the full definite verb conjugation that this course only previewed.