



Now, you greet first.

a) Greet **Асан**  
- .....

b) Greet **Айша**.  
- .....

**Асан: - Салам Жон!**

**Айша: - Салам Жон!**

After **Салам** people usually say **Кандайсың?**  
Which means “how are you?”

**Кандайсың?**

**Кан-дай-сың?**

**Кан-дай-сың?**

Try to say it after the speaker.

a) Speaker: - **Кандайсың?**  
- .....

b) Speaker: - **Кандайсың?**  
- .....

The usual reply is:  
Which means “good”

**Жакшы.**

**Жак-шы.**

**Жак-шы**

Sometimes the reply is **жакшы, рахмат**  
**жак-шы, рах-мат.**

**жак-шы, рах-мат**

Which means “good, thank you.”

Repeat these words after the speaker.

a) Speaker: - **жакшы**  
- .....

b) Speaker: - **жакшы, рахмат.**  
- .....

Listen to how **Асан**, and **Айша** say these questions and then answer.

**Асан: - Кандайсың Айша?**

**Айша: - Кандайсың Асан?**

**Айша: - жакшы.**

**Асан: - Жакшы, рахмат.**

Let's practice.

**Асан** and **Айша** are going to ask you.

Reply to them.

**Асан: - Кандайсың Жон?**

**Айша: - Кандайсың Жон?**

**Жон: - .....**

**Жон: - .....**

Now, you ask them.

Ask **Асан**.  
- .....

**Асан: - Жакшы.**

Ask **Айша**.  
- .....

**Айша: - Жакшы, рахмат**

Now, let's review the greeting from the beginning. Listen to how **Асан** and **Айша** greet each other.

- **Салам Айша!**
- **Салам Асан!**
- **Кандайсың?**
- **Жакшы, рахмат.**

Now greet with **Асан**. Reply to him.

- **Салам Жон!**
- .....
- **Кандайсың?**
- .....

Now, greet with **Айша**. You start.

- .....!
- Салам Жон!**
- .....?
- Жакшы, рахмат**

## Lesson 2: Formal Greeting

The formal way of greeting is **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?** **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**  
Which means "good morning" or "good day" or "good evening". It can be used any time of the day for greetings with elderly people, both male and female.

Try to say it after the speaker.

- Speaker: **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**  
.....?
- Speaker: **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**  
.....?

The reply is the same **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**  
This is the polite greeting between two unfamiliar people.

Listen to how these people greet each other.

- Speaker: **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**
- Speaker: **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**

But between a young person and an elderly man or woman on the street the, the reply is **Са-ла-мат-чы-лык**

In this case a young person usually starts the greeting and the elderly person replies.

Listen to how a young man greets an elderly man:

- Young man: **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**
- Elderly man: **Са-ла-мат-чы-лык**

A young man greets an elderly woman.

- Young man **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**
- Elderly woman **Са-ла-мат-чы-лык**

Try to say the reply after the speaker.

- Speaker 1: **Са-ла-мат-чы-лык**

Speaker 2: .....  
**Са-ла-мат-чы-лык**  
 .....

Let's practice. **Асан** and **Айша** are going to formally greet you.  
 Listen and greet them in turn.

**Асан:** **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**

**Айша:** **Са-ла-мат-сыз-бы?**

.....

.....

Now, you greet first.

a) Greet **Асан**:

b) Greet **Айша**:

.....?

.....?

**Асан: Саламатчылык.**

**Айша: Саламатчылык**

You met an elderly man on the street. Greet him and listen to the reply

.....?

**Саламатчылык**

Like in informal greeting, to continue the conversation we say “**кандайсыз?**” Pay attention to the formal ending “**сыз**” which differentiates this word from an informal one.

**Кандайсыз?**

**Кандайсыз?**

How are you?

The reply is the same.

**Жакшы, рахмат.**

**Жакшы, рахмат**

Let's review the formal greeting from the beginning. Listen to how **Айша** greets with an elderly man.

**Айша:** **Саламатсызбы?**

**Elderly man:** **Саламатчылык**

**Айша:** **Кандайсыз?**

**Elderly man:** **Жакшы, рахмат.**

Now, you are going to greet an elderly woman in the same way. You start greeting.

.....?

Elderly woman: **Саламатчылык**

.....?

Elderly woman: **Жакшы, рахмат**

Now, you are going to greet an elderly man. After greeting, introduce yourself. Greet first.

Elderly man: **Саламатчылык**

.....?

Elderly man: **Жакшы, рахмат**

.....

Good job! You are really making good progress.



To tell about yourself, for example “I am a Volunteer,” you should say,  
**Мен волонтермун Мен во-лон-тер-мун Мен во-лон-тер-мун**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Мен волонтермун** Speaker: **Мен волонтермун**  
.....

Listen to how Amy says the phrase.

Amy: **Мен волонтермун Мен волонтермун**

To say, “I am from America” you should say, **Мен Америкадан келдим**  
**Мен Америка-дан кел-дим Мен Америка-дан кел-дим**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Мен Америкадан келдим.** Speaker: **Мен Америкадан келдим**  
.....

Listen to how Amy says the phrase and try to repeat after her.

Amy: **Мен Америкадан келдим Мен Америкадан келдим**  
.....

Amy is going to tell about herself. Listen.

Amy: **Салам! Менин атым Эйми**  
**Мен волонтермун**  
**Мен Америкадан келдим**

Now tell about yourself.

.....  
.....

To ask “Where do you come from?” say, **Сиз кайдан келдиңиз?**  
**Сиз кайдан келдиңиз?**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Сиз кайдан келдиңиз?** Speaker: **Сиз кайдан келдиңиз?**  
.....?

Let’s practice. Listen to how Peace Corps Volunteer Amy replies to Asan’s question.

**Асан: Сиз кайдан келдиңиз?**  
**Аму: Мен Америкадан келдим. Мен волонтермун.**

**Асан** is going to ask you. Reply to him

**Асан: Сиз кайдан келдиңиз?**  
.....

**Айша** is going to ask you. Reply to her.

**Айша: Сен кайдан келдин?**  
 .....

Let's review everything we have learned so far.

Listen to a talk between **Аму** and **Асан**.

**Асан: Саламатсызбы?**

**Аму: Саламатчылык!**

**Асан: Кандайсыз?**

**Аму: Жакшы, рахмат.**

**Асан: Менин атым Асан. Сиздин атыңыз ким?**

**Аму: Менин атым Аму**

**Асан: сиз кайдан келдиңиз?**

**Аму: Мен Америкадан келдим. Мен волонтермун.**

**Айша** is going to talk to you. Reply to her questions and ask her.

**Айша: Саламатсызбы?**

.....!

**Айша: Кандайсыз?**

.....

**Айша: Сиздин атыңыз ким?**

.....

**Айша: Менин атым Айша. Сиз кайдан келдиңиз?**

.....

#### Lesson 4: Expressing Understanding/Misunderstanding

When you have misheard someone or you misunderstand something, you can say,

**Ке-чи-ре-сиз тү-шүн-гөн жок-мун Ке-чи-ре-сиз тү-шүн-гөн жок-мун**

Which means, "Excuse me, I didn't understand."

Try to say this phrase after the speaker.

Speaker: **Кечиресиз түшүнгөн жокмун**

Speaker: **Кечиресиз түшүнгөн жокмун**  
 .....

Listen to how Amy uses this phrase in her conversation with a person.

**Аму: Саламатсызбы?**

**Акыл: Саламатчылык!**

**Аму: Менин атым Аму**

**Акыл: Менин атым Акыл**

**Аму: Сиз кайдан келдиңиз?**

**Акыл: Мен бул жерден эмесмин башка жактан келдим.**

**Аму: Кечиресиз, түшүнгөн жокмун.**





## Lesson 5. Expressing Likes and Dislikes

Probably, the first thing you will like about Kyrgyzstan is the mountains.

To say “I like mountains” is **Мага тоолор жагат** **Мага тоолор жагат**

Try to say the phrase after the speaker.

Speaker: **Мага тоолор жагат** **Мага тоолор жагат**

.....

Michael is going to tell you about himself and his feelings about the mountains.

**Michael:** **Менин атым Майкл.**  
**Мен волонтермун.**  
**Мен Америкадан келдим.**  
**Мага тоолор жагат.**

To talk about something you like, use **Мага \_\_\_\_\_ жагат** phrase and put nouns between them.

Listen to the speaker and repeat.

Speaker: **Мага баскетбол жагат** **Мага теннис жагат** **Мага футбол жагат**

.....

You have probably guessed the names of some sport games. Many of them became international words and sound almost the same.

Now, tell about yourself and your interests.

.....

.....

To say “I don’t like” you should say, **Мага жакпайт.** **Мага жакпайт**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Мага жакпайт** **Мага жакпайт**

.....

Listen to how Michael says that he doesn’t like meat, vodka and coffee, and try to repeat after him.

Michael: **Мага эт жакпайт** **Мага арак жакпайт** **Мага кофе жакпайт.**

.....

To ask another person say, **Сизге жагабы?** **Сизге жагабы?**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Сизге жагабы?** **Сизге жагабы?**  
 .....? .....?

Michael is going to ask you. Reply to him.

Michael **Сизге тоолор жагабы?** Michael: **Сизге кофе жагабы?**  
 ..... .....

Some more phrases to express likes and dislikes:

Try to say them after the speaker.

Speaker: **абдан жакшы** very good **Сонун экен** wonderful  
 .....  
**Жаман** bad **жаман көрөм** I don't like.  
 ..... .....

Now, tell about yourself and your interests.

.....  
 .....

### Lesson 6. Stating Whether Something is Right or Wrong.

To say "this is right" say, **Бул туура.** **Бул туура.**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Бул туура.** **Бул туура.** **Бул туура.**  
 ..... .....

To ask "is this right?" say, **Бул туурабы?** **Бул туурабы?**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Бул туурабы?** **Бул туурабы?**  
 .....? .....

To say "this is not right" say, **Бул туура эмес.** **Бул туура эмес.**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Бул туура эмес.** **Бул туура эмес.**  
 ..... .....

All the three forms (statement, question and negation) can be used without **бул**

Now Jenna is going to ask you. Reply to her.

Jenna: **Бул туурабы?**  
 .....

Ask Jenna. ....

Jenna: **Туура.**

### Lesson 7. Expressing One's Opinion.

To express your opinion say, **Мен ойлойм** which is “I think” or “I guess”

**Мен ойлойм. Мен ойлойм.**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Мен ойлойм. Мен ойлойм.**

.....

Jenna is going to express her opinion. Listen and repeat.

Jenna: **Мен ойлойм бул туура. Мен ойлойм бул туура.**

.....

To ask a question like “What do you think?” say,

**Кандай ойлойсуз? Кандай ойлойсуз?**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Кандай ойлойсуз? Кандай ойлойсуз?**

.....?

Ask for Jenna's opinion and listen to her answer.

Jenna: **Мен ойлойм бул туура.**

Jenna is going to ask you. Reply to her.

Jenna: **Кандай ойлойсуң?**

.....

### Lesson 8. Asking for Permission.

To ask for permission, for instance “Can I ask?” say, **Сурасам болобу? Сурасам болобу?**

Try to say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Сурасам болобу? Сурасам болобу?**

.....

The answer is **Ооба, болот.**

**Ооба, болот**

Say it after the speaker.

Speaker: **Ооба, болот Ооба, болот**

.....



**Айша** is going to ask permission using those verbs. Reply to her.

Айша: Кирсем болобу?  
.....

Айша: Колдонсом болобу?  
.....

Айша: Көрсөм болобу?  
.....

**Dear friends,**

On behalf of the Peace Corps staff in the Kyrgyz Republic, I congratulate you for your decision to join us as Volunteers. I am sure you would like to know more about this country before coming. With this purpose, we are providing you with basic interactive Kyrgyz and Russian audio language courses. We hope you will find them helpful.

I would like to express my special acknowledgments to the staff and currently serving Volunteers for their help in creating these courses.

Listen and enjoy!

### The Kyrgyz Alphabet

N	Typed	Cursive	Phonetic scripts	Examples
1	А а	<i>А а</i>	[ a ]	Like English “a” in “last”
2	Б б	<i>Б б</i>	[ b ]	Like English “b” in “best”
3	В в	<i>В в</i>	[ v ]	Like English “v” in “vase”
4	Г г	<i>Г г</i>	[ g ]	Like English “g” in “gate”
5	Д д	<i>Д д</i>	[ d ]	Like English “d” in “door”
6	Е е	<i>Е е</i>	[ e ]	Like English “e” in “end”
7	Ё ё	<i>Ё ё</i>	[ yo ]	Like English “yo” in “yours”
8	Ж ж	<i>Ж ж</i>	[ j ]	Like English “j” in “journal”
9	З з	<i>З з</i>	[ z ]	Like English “z” in “zipper”
10	И и	<i>И и</i>	[ i ]	Like English “ee” in “tree”
11	Й й	<i>Й й</i>	[ y ]	Like English “y” in “toy”
12	К к	<i>К к</i>	[ k ]	Like English “k” in “kitten”
13	Л л	<i>Л л</i>	[ l ]	Like English “l” in “lemon”
14	М м	<i>М м</i>	[ m ]	Like English “m” in “mother”
15	Н н	<i>Н н</i>	[ n ]	Like English “n” in “no”

16	Ң ң	Ң ң	[ ng ]	Like English “ng” in “song”
17	О о	О о	[ o ]	Like English “o” in “on”
18	Ө ө	Ө ө	[ o ]	Like German “o” in “Koln”
19	П п	П п	[ p ]	Like English “p” in “past”
20	Р р	Р р	[ r ]	Like Spanish rolled “r”
21	С с	С с	[ s ]	Like English “s” in “summer”
22	Т т	Т т	[ t ]	Like English “t” in “button”
23	У у	У у	[ u ]	Like English “u” in “cruel”
24	Ү ү	Ү ү	[ u ]	Like German “u” in “Dusseldorf”
25	Ф ф	Ф ф	[ f ]	Like English “f” in “father”
26	Х х	Х х	[ h ]	Like English “h” in “hard”
27	Ц ц	Ц ц	[ ts ]	Like English “ts” in “its”
28	Ч ч	Ч ч	[ ch ]	Like English “ch” in “church”
29	Ш ш	Ш ш	[ sh ]	Like English “sh” in “ship”
30	Щ щ	Щ щ	[ sts ]	Like English “shck” in “fish chunks”
31	Ъ	Ъ		Hardens previous letter
32	Ь	Ь		Softens previous letter
33	Ы ы	Ы ы	[ i ]	Like English “i” in “bit”
34	Э э	Э э	[ e ]	Like English “e” in “let”
35	Ю ю	Ю ю	[ yu ]	Like English “yu” in “you”
36	Я я	Я я	[ ya ]	Like English “ya” in “yard”

## More Basic Kyrgyz Phrases

### Greetings

Kyrgyz phrases in Cyrillic	Kyrgyz phrases in phonetic transcripts	English versions
Салам! Салам!	Salam! Salam!	Hi! Hi!
Саламатсызбы? Саламатчылык.	Salamatsysby? Salamatchylyk.	Good morning! Good morning!
Жакшысызбы? Жакшы, рахмат.	Jakshysyzby? Jakshy, rahmat.	Good morning! Good morning!
Кандайсыз? Жакшы, рахмат.	Kandaisyz? Jakshy, rahmat.	How are you? Good, thank you

Ассалом алейкум! Алейкум салам!	Assalom aleikum! Aleikum salam!	Good morning! Good morning!
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### Expressing one's opinion

Kyrgyz phrases in Cyrillic	Kyrgyz phrases in phonetic transcripts	English versions
Мага жагат.	Maga jagat.	I like.
Мен кызыгам.	Men kyzygam.	I am interested in.
Мен ойлойм.	Men oiloim.	I think.

### Expressing gratitude

Kyrgyz phrases in Cyrillic	Kyrgyz phrases in phonetic transcripts	English versions
Рахмат.	Rahmat.	Thank you.
Чоң рахмат.	Chong rahmat.	Thank you very much.

### Food related expressions.

Kyrgyz phrases in Cyrillic	Kyrgyz phrases in phonetic transcripts	English versions
Тамагыңыз таттуу болсун!	Tamagyngyz tattuu bolsun!	Bon appétit!
Мен жедим.	Men jedim.	I am full.
Мен эт жебейм.	Men et jebeim.	I don't eat meat.
Мен арак ичпейм.	Men arak ichpeim.	I don't drink vodka.
Суу ичем.	Suu ichem.	I drink water.
Балык	Balyk	Fish
Жумуртка	Jumurtka	Egg
Мөмө жемиштер	Momo jemishter	Fruits
Жер жемиштер	Jer jemishter	Vegetables
Даамдуу экен	Daamdu eken	Delicious

### Introducing someone to somebody.

Kyrgyz phrases in Cyrillic	Kyrgyz phrases in phonetic transcripts	English versions
----------------------------	--	------------------

Бул менин досум.	Bul menin dosum.	This is my friend.
Таанышып ал, бул Майкл.	Taanyshyp al, bul Michael.	Meet, this is Michael.
Таанышканыма кубанычтуумун!	Taanyshkanyma kubanychtuumun!	Nice to meet you!

### Asking someone.

Kyrgyz phrases in Cyrillic	Kyrgyz phrases in phonetic transcripts	English versions
Жардам керекпи?	Jardam kerekpi?	Do you need help?
Сизге эмне керек?	Sisge emne kerek?	What do you need?
Туалет кайда?	Tualet kaida?	Where is toilet?
Баня кайда?	Banya kaida?	Where is Banya?
Бул эмне?	Bul emne?	What is this?
Бул ким?	Bul kim?	Who is this?
Кирди кайда жууим?	Kirdi kaida juuim?	Where do I do laundry?

### Expressing feelings

Kyrgyz phrases in Cyrillic	Kyrgyz phrases in phonetic transcripts	English versions
Мен чарчадым.	Men charchadym.	I am tired.
Ооруп жатам.	Oorup jatam.	I feel sick.
Мен суусадым	Men suusadym	I am thirsty

### Numerals

Numbers	Phonetic transcripts	English numbers
1 бир	Bir	One
2 эки	Eki	Two
3 үч	Uch	Three
4 төрт	Tort	Four
5 беш	Besh	Five
6 алты	Alty	Six
7 жети	Jeti	Seven
8 сегиз	Segiz	Eight



9 тогуз	Toguz	Nine
10 он	On	Ten
11 он бир	On bir	Eleven
12 он эки	On eki	Twelve
13 он үч	On uch	Thirteen
14 он төрт	On tort	Fourteen
15 он беш	On besh	Fifteen
16 он алты	On alty	Sixteen
17 он жети	On jeti	Seventeen
18 он сегиз	On segiz	Eighteen
19 он тогуз	On toguz	Nineteen
20 жыйырма	Jyirma	Twenty
30 отуз	Otuz	Thirty
40 кырк	Kyrk	Forty
50 элүү	Eluu	Fifty
60 алтымыш	Altymysh	Sixty
70 жетимиш	Jetimish	Seventy
80 сексен	Seksen	Eighty
90 токсон	Tokson	Ninety
100 жүз	Juz	One hundred
200 эки жүз	Eki juz	Two hundred
300 үч жүз	Uch juz	Three hundred
400 төрт жүз	Tort juz	Four hundred
500 беш жүз	Besh juz	Five hundred
600 алты жүз	Alty juz	Six hundred
700 жети жүз	Jeti juz	Seven hundred
800 сегиз жүз	Segiz juz	Eight hundred
900 тогуз жүз	Toguz juz	Nine hundred
1000 миң	ming	One thousand