Lesson 1  
Sirib Maipapan ti Daga ken Tattao  
Geography and People

This lesson will introduce you to:
- Simple greetings and basic introductions in Ilokano
- How to greet people in formal and informal situations in the Philippines
- Personal pronouns
- Possessive pronouns
- How to use the verbs “to be” and “to live” in the present tense
- Basic geographical names of the Philippines.

PEOPLE

1. Listen to these simple greetings and phrases in Ilokano and repeat them after the speaker.

Hello! Hi!         Kumusta!
Good morning!     Naimbag a bigat!
Good afternoon!   Naimbag a malem!
Good night/evening!  Naimbag a rabii!
Good noon!        Naimbag nga pangaldaw!
Good day!         Naimbag nga aldaw!
Good morning, sir/ma’am!  Naimbag a bigat, apo!
Good afternoon, sir/ma’am!  Naimbag a malem, apo!
Good night/evening, sir/ma’am!  Naimbag a rabii, apo!

Cultural Notes: Everywhere in the Philippines, hospitality among the people is always evident, such as in public places, gatherings, or in any setting. Greetings may be exhibited by way of a smile, waving hands, or a pat on the shoulder. Failure to show any form of greeting is not acceptable and is considered rude, especially between young people and their elders, who see it as a sign of disrespect.

2. Exchange greetings with your teacher and your partner. What would you say at 7 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., and 10 p.m.?

3. Familiarize yourself with personal pronouns. Listen to the audio and repeat after the speaker.

I            Siak
You            Sika
He            Isuna
She            Isuna
You (plural)    Dakayo; Sikayo
We            Datayo; Kami; Kadakami
they            Isuda
Grammar Notes: Pronouns (Pangsandi) in Ilokano refer to people in singular or in plural form and may be honorific. Plural pronouns in first person distinguish between inclusive (includes addressee) and exclusive (excludes addressee). Pronouns in the second person include a factor of respect. Ilokano pronouns do not distinguish between male and female. Note that there is a single pronoun for both “he” and “she:” “Isuna.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular Pronouns</th>
<th>Plural Pronouns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Person</strong></td>
<td><strong>Person</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st}</td>
<td>Siak (I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2\textsuperscript{nd}</td>
<td>Sika (You)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3\textsuperscript{rd}</td>
<td>Isu; Isuna (He/She)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Listen to the following dialogues and repeat after the speaker. Read the dialogues in pairs.

**In the morning**
Person A: Good morning Antonio!
Person B: Good morning Alex.

**Iti Bigat**
*Naimbag a bigatmo, Antonio!*
Naimbag a bigatmo met, Alex!

**During the day**
Person A: Good afternoon Maria!
Person B: Good afternoon Tess.
Person A: How are you Maria?
Person B: Fine, thank you. And you?
Person A: Very well.

**Iti Aldaw**
*Naimbag a malemmo, Maria!*
Naimbag a malemmo met Tess!
Kumusta ka, Maria?
Naimbag met. Agyamanak kenka! Ket sika?
Naimbag met unay.

**In the Evening**
Person A: Good evening, Pedro.
Person B: Good evening Pablo.
Person A: How are you, Pedro?
Person B: Fine, thank you. And you?
Person A: Fine. Good night, Pedro!
Person B: Good night, Pablo.

**Iti Rabii**
Naimbag a rabiim, Pedro!
Naimbag a rabiim met, Pablo!
Kumusta ka Pedro?
Naimbag, Dios ti agngina. Ket sika?
Naimbag. Naimbag a rabiim, Pedro!
Naimbag a rabiim met, Pablo!

**Informal**
Person A: Hi, Gorgonia!
Person B: Hi!
Person A: How are you?
Person B: Good. And you?
Person A: Good!
Person B: Bye!

**Saan a Formal**
*Kumusta, Gorgonia!*
*Kumusta met!*
Kumusta ka?
Naimbag met. Ket sika?
Naimbag!
Dios ti agba ti!
5. Using the dialogues above as a model, compose your own similar dialogues. Work in pairs or in small groups. Then, read each word in the dialog below, focusing on correct pronunciation and emphasis.

Romeo: Kumusta Gloria! Kumusta ka?
   Hi, Gloria! How are you?
Gloria: Naimbag met. Ket sika?
   Just fine. And you?
Romeo: Naimbagak met, agyamanak!
   I am fine too, thanks!
Gloria: O sige ngarud, agkita tayo manen.
   Okay, see you later. (We’ll see each other again.)
Romeo: Apay nga agap-apura ka?
   Why are you in a hurry?
Gloria: Mapanak agtrabaho nga masapa. Dios ti agbati, Romeo.
   I’m going to work early. Bye, Romeo.

GEOGRAPHY

I am from Isabela.          Taga Isabelaak
You are from Cebu.          Taga Cebu ka.
He is from Bacolod.          Taga Bacolod Isuna.
She is from Ilocos Norte.     Taga Ilocos Norte isuna.
He is from Bataan.           Taga Bataan isu.
We are from Cagayan.         Taga Cagayan kami.
They are from Bulacan.       Taga Bulacan isuda.
Grammar Notes: Most Ilokano verbs are created by connecting a verbalizing affix to a root word. The most common verb affix is the prefix “ag.” When the prefix “ag” is attached to any noun, a new verb is formed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>With the Prefix</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kanta (song)</td>
<td>agkanta</td>
<td>to sing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>surat (letter)</td>
<td>agsurat</td>
<td>to write</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bunga (fruit)</td>
<td>agbunga</td>
<td>to bear fruit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Affixes like maka and ma are intransitive and transitive. They denote potential action or actions that demonstrate ability and control.

Example: surat (write) - makasurat (to be able to write); kita (see) - makita (to see)

6. Listen to the following sentences and repeat after the speaker.

1. I am a Filipino. Pilipinoak.
   I am from the Philippines. Taga Pilipinasak.
2. He is a Filipino. Pilipino isuna.
   He is from the Philippines. Taga Pilipinas isuna.
3. She is a Filipino. Pilipina isuna.
   She is from Iloilo. Taga Iloilo isuna.
4. We are Filipinos. Pilipino kami.
   We are from Makati. Taga Makati kami.
5. You are a Filipino. Pilipino ka.
   You are from Manila. Taga Manila ka.
6. They are Filipinos. Pilipino isuda
   They are from Makati. Taga Makatida

7. Pretend you and your classmates are from the Philippines. Introduce yourself and your classmates to your friend in Ilocano. Use the model below and the map.

Model:
I am a Filipino. I am from Manila. Bob is a Filipino. He is from Cebu. Tom and Mary are Filipinos. They are from Zamboanga.

Pilipinoak; Taga Isabelaak; Amerikano ni Bob; Taga Cagayanda; Pilipino da Tom ken Mary; Taga Zambalesda.

Where are you from? Sadino ka?
Where is he (she/it) from? Sadino isuna (isuna/daytoy)?
Where are we (they) from? Sadino kami (isuda)?
8. Listen to the following dialogues in Ilokano. Repeat after the speaker. Follow along in your workbook.

1. A. I am from Manila.  
   Taga Manilaak.  
   Where are you from?  
   Tagaano ka?  
   B. I am from Cabanatuan.  
   Taga Cabanatuanak.

2. A. Ann is from Cebu.  
   Taga Cebu ni Ann.  
   Where is Bob from?  
   Tagaano ni Bob?  
   B. He is from Negros.  
   Taga Negros isuna.

3. A. I am from Bacolod.  
   Taga Bacolodak.  
   Where are you and Mary from?  
   Tagaanoka ken Mary?  
   B. We are from Olongapo.  
   Taga Olongapo kami.

4. A. Tom is from Davao.  
   Taga Davao ni Tom.  
   Where are Paul and Nancy from?  
   Tagaano da Paul ken Nancy  
   B. They are from Ilagan.  
   Taga Ilagan isuda.

9. Role-play the dialogues above using the map of the Philippines.

   Am I from Ilagan?  
   Yes, I am.  
   No, I am not.  
   Taga Ilaganak kadi?  
   Wen, siak.  
   Saan, saanak Taga Ilagan.

   Are you from Bulacan?  
   Yes, you are.  
   No, you are not.  
   Taga Bulacan ka kadi?  
   Wen, sika.  
   Saan, saanka nga Taga Bulacan.

   Is he from Tagaytay?  
   Yes, he is.  
   No, he is not.  
   Taga Tagaytay isuna kadi?  
   Wen, isuna.  
   Saan, saan nga Taga Tagaytay isuna.

   Is she from Aparri?  
   Yes, she is.  
   No, she is not.  
   Taga Aparri isuna kadi?  
   Wen, Isuna.  
   Saan, saan nga Taga Aparri isuna.

   Is it from Puerto Prinsesa?  
   Yes, it is.  
   No, it is not.  
   Taga Puerto Prinsesa Isuna kadi?  
   Wen.  
   Saan, saan isuna nga Taga Puerto Prinsesa.

   Are we from Surigao?  
   Yes, we are.  
   No, we are not.  
   Taga Surigao kami kadi?  
   Wen. Dakami  
   Saan, saan isuna nga Taga Surigao.

   Are they from Leyte?  
   Yes, they are.  
   No, they are not.  
   Taga Leyte isuda kadi?  
   Wen, isuda  
   Saan, saan isuda nga Taga Leyte.

Note: The word “kadi” makes a sentence interrogative. It is an Ilokano word entreating someone to act, as in an imperative statement.

Example: Alaem kadi diay sarming ko. (Will you please get my glasses?)
10. Read the following dialogues aloud with a partner.

1. A. Are you from the Philippines?  
   B. Yes, I am.  
   Taga Pilipinas ka?  
   Wen, taga Pilipinasak.

2. A. Are you from Vigan?  
   B. No, I am not. I am from Angeles.  
   Taga Vigan ka?  
   Saan, saanank. Taga Angelesak.

3. A. Is Bob from the Philippines?  
   B. Yes, he is.  
   Taga Pilipinas cadi ni Bob?  
   Wen, isuna ket taga Pilipinas.

4. A. Are Bob and Mary from Aparri?  
   B. Yes, they are.  
   Taga Aparri cadi ni Bob ken Mary?  
   Wen, isuda ket taga Aparri.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is your name?</th>
<th>Ania ti naganmo?</th>
<th>What is your name?</th>
<th>Ania ti naganmo?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My name is Samuel.</td>
<td>Samuel ti naganko</td>
<td>My name is Pedro Buno.</td>
<td>Pedro Buno ti naganko.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on Introductions:
Ilokano are very aware of age and status in their interactions with people. For this reason, when addressing unfamiliar people, they are likely to use quasi-kin terms that express this relationship. When calling a waiter or waitress, you might have to guess the approximate age and compare it with that of yourself, and call out Manang and Manong for older women and men or Ading for younger women or men to get their attention. The following are terms of address used throughout the Kailokuan.

Kumusta ka balasangko?  How are you my young lady?
Dios ti agngina, Apo.  Thanks, sir/ma’am.
Manang! Kayatmi pay ti beer. Older sister! We want more beer.
Mayat met barok.  It’s nice indeed, my young man.

The terms nana, tata, lolo and lola are often used with first names to address older people with respect. It is meant to address one or more generations above the speaker. “Tata” is an Ilocano term addressed to older males and is equivalent to father or dad. “Nana,” on the other hand, is for older women and is normally used for one’s mother or mom. The terms “Lolo” and “Lola” are used to address a grandfather and a grandmother respectively. Male addresses end with a vowel “o;” female addresses end with a vowel “a.”
Examples:

Kumusta, Nana Marga. Hello, Nana Carmen.
Ayanna ni Lolo Ipe? Where is Grandfather Ipe?
Agannad kayo, Tata Luming. Be careful, Tata Luming.
Naimbag a malemmo, Lola Gonyang. Good afternoon to you, Grandma Gonyang.

Notice that the addresses (Tata, Nana, Lolo, or Lola) are stated before a person’s name.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I</th>
<th>Siak</th>
<th>My</th>
<th>Ko</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You</td>
<td>Sika</td>
<td>Your</td>
<td>Yo; Mo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td>Isuna</td>
<td>His</td>
<td>Kenkuana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>Isuna</td>
<td>Her</td>
<td>Kenkuana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It</td>
<td>Daytoy; Daydiay</td>
<td>Its</td>
<td>Na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We</td>
<td>Dacami</td>
<td>Our</td>
<td>Mi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They</td>
<td>Isuda</td>
<td>Their</td>
<td>Da</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is her name? Ania ti naganna?  What is his name? Ania ti naganna?
Her name is Ruth. Ruth ti naganna  His name is Douglas. Douglas ti naganna.

11. Listen to the following dialogue and repeat after the speaker.

A. Good morning!
Naimbag nga bigat!
B. Good morning!
Naimbag nga bigat!
A. My name is Peter.
What is your name?
Peter ti naganko.
Ania ti naganmo?
B. My name is Alex.
Alex ti naganko.
A. Nice to meet you, Alex.
Maragsakanak makaammo kenka, Alex 
B. Nice to meet you, Peter.
Maragsakanak makaammo kenka, Peter.
12. Work in pairs or in small groups. Look at the pictures and make up similar dialogues.

13. Listen to the following statements and repeat after the speaker.

My name is Paul.
Pual ti naganko.

His name is Bob.
Bob ti naganna

Her name is Ann.
Ann ti naganna.

I live in Manila.
Agnanaed idiay Manila.

He lives in Cebu.
Agnanaed isuna idiay Cebu.

She lives in Leyte.
Agnanaed isuna idiay Leyte.

We live in Isabela.
Agnanaed kami idiay Isabela.

They live in Masbate.
Agnanaed isuda idiay Masbate.
14. Read the following sentences. Translate them into English. Check your work with the answer key.

1. Agnanaed ni Bob idiyay Manila.
3. Saan nga agnanaed ni Olga idiyay Cebu.
4. Sadinno ti pagnanaedam?
   Agnanaedak idiyay Tagaytay.
5. Sadinno ti pagnanaedan da Mary ken Paul?
   Agnanaedda idiyay Iloilo.

15. Listen to the following dialogue and repeat after the speaker. Follow along in your workbook. Make up a similar dialogue. Work in pairs or in small groups.

A. Naimbag a malem
B. Naimbag a malemmo met.
   Ann ti naganko. Ania ti naganmo?
B. Bob ti naganko.
A. Maragsakanak nga makaammo kenka, Bob.
B. Maragsakanak nga makaammo kenka, Ann.
A. Agnanaedak idiyay Isabela. Sadinno ti pagnanaedm?
B. Agnanaedak idiyay Zamboanga.

16. Imagine that you are new to the class. Ask your partner about the rest of the students (their names and where they live). Use the model below. Work in pairs or in small groups.

A. Ania ti naganna?
B. Maria ti naganna.
A. Sadinno ti pagnaedanna?
B. Agnanaed idiyay Manila.

17. What is the question? Read the questions in English and then translate the corresponding Ilokano answer into English, check your work with the answer key.

1. Are you from Cebu?
   Saan. Taga Manilaak

2. Do you live in Cebu?
   Wen, Agnanaedak idiay Cebu.

3. Is he from Basilan?
   Wen, Taga Basilan isuna
4. Does she live in Ilocos?
   Wen, aghanaed isuna iday Ilocos.

5. Is he from Bulacan?
   Saan. Taga Cavite isuna.

6. Is your name Gorgonia?
   Wen, ti nanganko ket Gorgonia.

7. Is his name Senor Macapagal?
   Saan, ni Senor Macapagal isuna.

8. Are you from Romblonak?
   Wen, Taga Romblonak.
End-of-Lesson Tasks

1. Read the following sentences and translate them from English into Ilokano. Check your work with the answer key.

A. My name is Tanya. I am from Moscow.
B. Do you live in Seattle? Yes.
C. His name is Joe. He lives in Berlin.
D. We are from Vancouver.
E. My name is Maurice. I am from Chicago
F. His name is Bob. He lives in Boston.
G. Her name is Susan. She lives in San Diego.
H. What is your name? My name is Tony.

2. Pretend that you are at a party. Introduce yourself to other people and ask them their names, where they are from, and where they live. Work in pairs or in small groups. Use the model below.

B. Kumusta! Linda ti naganko
A. Taga Pilipinasak. Tagaano ka?
B. Taga Amerikaak.
A. Agnanaedak idiy Cebu. Sadinno ti pagnanaedam?
B. Agnanaedak idiy Leyte.

3. Introduce your friend to your classmates. Use the model below.

Ti naganna ket Pedro.
Taga Hawaii isuna.
Pilipino isuna.
Agnanaed isuna idiay Baguio.
Vocabulary List

Hello.  
Kumusta.

Hi.  
Kumusta.

Good morning.  
Naimbag nga bigat.

Good afternoon.  
Naimbag nga malem.

Good evening.  
Naimbag nga rabii.

Good night.  
Naimbag nga rabii.

Good-bye.  
Dios ti agbati.

How are you?  
Kumusta ka?

Fine/very well.  
Naimbag unay.

Thank you.  
Dios ti agngina.

You are welcome.  
Awan anyamannya.

Nice to meet you.  
Maragsakanak nga makasarak kenka.

My name is …  
Ti naganko ket . . .

I  
Siak

He  
Isuna

She  
Isuna

You  
Sika

We  
Dakami

They  
Isuda

To live in  
Agnaed inti

No  
Saan

Yes  
Wen

To be  
Agbalin nga

To be from  
Agbalin nga taga

Where are you from?  
Tagaanoka?/Sadinno ka?

What is your name?  
Ania ti naganmo?

Where do you live?  
Sadinno ti pagnaedam?

My  
Kuak

Your  
Kuam

His  
Kuana

Her  
Kuana

Our  
Kukuami

Their  
Kukuada

Nationality  
Nacionalidad

People  
Tattao

Geography  
Sirib maipapan ti daga

Pronouns  
Pansandí

Where  
Sadinno; antoy

What  
Ania

Language  
Pagsasao

Here  
Ditoy
Answer Key

14.

1. Bob lives in Manila.
3. Olga does not live in Cebu
5. Where do Mary and Paul live? They live in Iloilo.

17.

1. Are you from Cebu?
   No, I am not. I am from Manila.
2. Do you live in Cebu?
   Yes, I live in Cebu.
3. Is he from Basilan?
   Yes, he is from Basilan.
4. Does she live in Ilocos?
   Yes, she lives in Ilocos.
5. Is he from Bulacan?
   No, he is not. He is from Cavite.
6. Is your name Gorgonia?
   Yes, my name is Gorgonia.
7. Is his name Senor Macapagal?
   No, he is not Senor Macapagal.
8. Are you from Romblonak?
9. Yes, I am from Romblonak.

End-of-Lesson Tasks

1.

A. Tanya ti naganko. Taga Moscowak.
B. Agnanaedka idiy Seattle? Wen.
D. Taga Vancouver kami.
E. Maurice ti naganko. Taga Chicagoak.
F. Bob ti naganna. Agnanaed isuna idiy Boston.
G. Susan ti naganna. Agnanaed isuna idiy San Diego
H. Ania ti naganmo? Tony ti naganko.