



## Meeting People

In this chapter, you will learn and be able to

- use common terms of address and reference
- greet and introduce yourself
- introduce others formally and informally
- spell in Vietnamese
- ask and state nationality
- confirm and negate information
- apologize and express gratitude and regret

### Vocabulary

- terms of address and reference
- personal and possessive pronouns
- countries, nationalities, and languages

### Grammar

- indicating possession with *của*
- asking questions with *gi*
- asking questions with *nào*
- confirming with question tag *phải không*

# 1 Greeting people



## 1.1 Terms of address and reference

Audio #1.1: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>

When talking to a Vietnamese, you need to use a term of address to address that person and a term of reference to refer to yourself. Terms of address and reference **vary** according to the **age**, **gender**, and **status** of the person you talk with. Therefore, “you” and “I” in English can be anh, chị, em, etc.

Terms of address	used to address	Meanings in social situations	Term of reference to call oneself
<b>ông</b>	an older male (formal) or someone who is as old as one’s grandfather	<i>Mr. / Sir</i>	<b>tôi</b> <b>cháu</b> (when talking to one’s grandfather or grandmother)
<b>bà</b>	an older female (formal) or someone who is as old as one’s grandmother	<i>Mrs. / Madam</i>	
<b>cô</b>	a female teacher a young and unmarried female	<i>female teacher</i> <i>Miss</i>	<b>em</b> <b>tôi</b>
<b>thầy</b>	a male teacher	<i>male teacher</i>	<b>em</b>
<b>anh</b>	a young man or a male peer	<i>male acquaintance</i>	<b>tôi</b> or <b>em</b>
<b>chị</b>	a young woman or a female peer	<i>female acquaintance</i>	<b>tôi</b> or <b>em</b>
<b>em</b>	a male or female younger than yourself; a young child; a student	<i>younger male or female acquaintance</i>	<b>anh</b> (male); <b>chị</b> (female); <b>cô / thầy</b>
<b>bạn</b>	male or female peer	<i>male/female friend</i>	<b>mình</b> (friendly “I”)

**Vocabulary Practice:** <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv1>

**Culture Notes:** <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-culture-notes>



## 1.2 Greetings

Audio #1.2: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>



-Xin chào!  
-Chào bạn.



-Cháu chào ông ạ.  
-Chào cháu.



-Chào em.  
-Chào cô ạ! (*female teacher*)



### 1.3 Using terms of address correctly

1. Work in pairs. Greet each other using the appropriate terms of address.
2. Now, take turns to assume each of you is one of the people below and greet each other.
3. Write out at least three short exchanges in #2 to submit as homework.



### 1.4 Greeting people

How would you greet the following Vietnamese people? Write the greetings using the appropriate terms of address. When appropriate, use the polite particle ă.

1. a teenager
2. a 19-year-old female classmate
3. your female teacher or male teacher
4. a 30-year-old male classmate
5. a 70-year-old woman
6. a 65-year-old man

## 2 Asking and telling names



### 1.5 Tên bạn là gì?

Audio #1.5: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>



*Vi and Lan met in a Vietnamese class*

-Tên mình là Vi.

Còn bạn, tên bạn là gì?

-Tên mình là Lan.



*Thi talking to his teacher on the first day of class*

-Họ tên [của] em là gì?

-Thưa cô, họ tên em là Lê Văn Thi (ă).\*

tên – given name    họ - family name    họ tên – full name    tên đệm/tên lót [So] – middle name

bạn – friend    còn bạn – as for you    thưa; ă – polite particles    của – of

là – to be    gì – what?    là gì? – is what?

Tên bạn là gì? – (lit. Name of you is what?) What is your name?

\*Appendix 2 - Vietnamese Names: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/appendices>



## 1.6 Indicating possession with *của*

To indicate possession, the preposition **của** (*belonging to; of*) is placed after the noun:

Họ **của** tôi là Lý. *My family name is Lý. (Lit.: The family name of mine is Lý.)*

Tên đệm / tên lót **của** tôi là Thanh. *My middle name is Thanh.\**

Tên tôi là Minh. *My given name is Minh.*

\*Notes: If you do not have a middle name, say: *Tôi không có tên đệm / tên lót.*

The use of **của** is not necessary when asking or telling given names.



## 1.7 Personal pronouns used as possessive pronouns

Terms of address and reference	EN equivalents	also used as possessive pronouns
tôi, mình ( <i>friendlier than tôi</i> )	<i>I</i>	<i>my; mine</i>
ông, bà, cô, anh, chị, em, thầy; bạn	<i>you</i> (singular)	<i>your; yours</i>
ông ấy, anh ấy, chị ấy, em ấy, thầy ấy, bạn ấy	<i>he</i> (singular)	<i>his; his</i>
bà ấy, cô ấy, chị ấy, em ấy, bạn ấy	<i>she</i> (singular)	<i>he; hers</i>

Tên (của) **ông ấy** là gì? *What is his first name?*

Họ (của) **bà ấy** là gì? *What is her last name?*

Họ tên của **thầy ấy** là gì? *What is his (the male teacher) full name?*

Tên đệm của **cô ấy** là gì? *What is her (the female teacher) middle name?*



## 1.8 Asking questions with *gì* and telling names

There are two ways of asking and telling names:

1. Xin lỗi (anh), tên **anh** là **gì**? *Excuse me, what is your name? Literally: Name of yours is what?*

Tên tôi là Hoà. *My name is Hoà. Literally: Name of mine is Hoà.*

2. Xin lỗi (anh), **anh** tên [là] **gì**? *Excuse me, what is your name?*

**Tôi** tên (là) Hoà. *My name is Hoà.*

**Notes:** In (#2) the possessors **anh** and **tôi** come first. The emphasis is on the person you are speaking to.

**Là** is optional in this pattern structure.



### Bài tập ngữ pháp 1.8

- Write what you would ask each person in Vietnamese based on the below prompts.
  - the full name of a male/female teenager
  - the middle name of a 65-year-old woman
  - the family name of an 80-year-old man
  - the family name of a 9-year-old child
  - the given name of your male teacher
  - the middle name of your female teacher
- Now, pretend you are the people in #1a-1f and write down the answers to the questions asked by a young female college student using the appropriate terms of reference (first-person pronouns) to refer to yourself. Feel free to invent the names.
- With the same prompts in #1, write the possessive pronouns you would use when you ask about a 3rd person. Example: a. full name of a male teenager > *Họ tên em ấy là gì?*



### 1.9 Chào anh, tên anh là gì?

- Walk around the classroom. Greet and ask at least five classmates their given names, then their full names. Be sure to choose the appropriate terms of address (*anh, chị, or bạn*) depending on their age and give your full name in the Vietnamese order.
- In pairs, imagine one of you is the new Vietnamese instructor *thầy Việt* or *cô Lan*. You two meet each other by chance before class. The student greets the teacher, who then returns the greeting and asks the student for his/her given name and family name.
- In pairs, take turns pointing at random to another classmate in the room and ask what his/her name is. \*Refer to #1.7, page 4 for third personal pronouns *anh ấy, chị ấy, bạn ấy*

## 3 Spelling in Vietnamese



### 1.10 Vietnamese Alphabet

Audio #1.10: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>

The Vietnamese alphabet has **29 letters**. It includes **7 letters** that are not part of the English alphabet: **ă, â, ð, ê, ô, ơ, u**. It excludes **4 letters**: **f, j, w, and z**. Repeat the letters after your instructor and/or listen to the audio file positioning the website and repeat after each letter.

a	ă	â	b	c	d	đ	e	ê	g	h
i	k	l	m	n	o	ô	ơ	p	q	r
s	t	u	ư	v	x	y				

**Pronunciation Guides and Drills:** <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/appendices>



### 1.11 Tone Marks

Vietnamese is a tonal language. There are six different tones. One word may carry each of the six different tones, therefore, conveying six different meanings.

Example: **ma** (ghost), **má** (mother), **mà** (but), **mả** (grave), **mã** (horse), **mạ** (young rice plant)

- 1. Không dấu** - The word has no tone mark. The pronunciation is flat. Example: *ma*
- 2. Dấu sắc** - High-rising tone: This tone is marked by an acute accent placed above the vowel called *dấu sắc* in Vietnamese. Example: **má**, spelled as: *m, a, sắc, má*
- 3. Dấu huyền** - Low-falling tone: This tone is represented by a grave accent above the vowel called *dấu huyền*. Example: **bì**, spelled as: *b, i, huyền, bì*
- 4. Dấu hỏi** - Low-falling rising tone (In Northern dialect: low falling tone): This tone is marked by an accent that looks like the top half of a question mark called *dấu hỏi*. **lã**, spelled as: Example: *lã, l, a, hỏi, lã*
- 5. Dấu ngã** - High rising broken tone: This tone is marked by the tilde above the vowel called *dấu ngã*. Example: **mã**, spelled as: *m, a, ngã, mã*
- 6. Dấu nặng** - Low-falling broken tone: This tone is marked is by a dot placed under the vowel called *dấu nặng*. Example: **tạ**, spelled as: *t, a, nặng, tạ*



### 1.12 Spelling with the Vietnamese alphabet

A. In pairs, take turns dictating the following acronyms and names **in Vietnamese** and writing them out. If necessary, help each other with the pronunciation and check for accuracy.

- |        |        |        |        |          |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| 1. IBM | 3. MTV | 5. UPS | 7. CBS | 9. Uber  |
| 2. ABC | 4. NBC | 6. MCI | 8. CNN | 10. Lyft |

B. You are at an optometrist's office in Saigon for an eye exam. Read aloud the lines your partner requests.

Ê  
E P Ô  
H V O L  
S X U V P T  
I O A K R Q Â Ặ

- C. In groups of three or four, take turns to spell aloud your names using the Vietnamese alphabet while the others write them down. Check to see if everyone spells your names correctly. If your names have letters that are not included in the Vietnamese alphabet, spell them as you would in English.

Ví dụ: Student 1: *Họ của mình là: Brown (then spell out each letter) b r o w n*  
Student 2: *Tên mình là Lâm. Lâm (then spell out each letter) l â m*

**\*Note:** The circumflex accent on **â, ê, ô**; the crescent on **ă**; and the hook on **ơ, ư** are **diacritical marks**, not to be confounded with **tone marks**. For more information on vowels, consonants, and tones, refer to **Pronunciation Guide and Drills**: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/appendices>



### 1.13 Listening and identifying Vietnamese given names

Listen to ten self-introductions, then number the given names you hear from 1-10.

Audio: #1.13 via <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-listening>

___ Lan	___ Hương	___ Hải	___ Tân	___ Thanh
___ Lam	___ Hường	___ Hai	___ Lâm	___ Khanh
___ Nam	___ Phương	___ Hà	___ Xuân	___ Giang
___ Tam	___ Phụng	___ Hảo	___ Hân	___ Cảnh



### 1.14 Listening and identifying Vietnamese given names

Listen carefully to eight introductions, then number the family names you hear from 1 – 8.

Audio #1.14: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-listening>

___ Nguyễn	___ Phạm	___ Lê	___ Trần	___ Vũ
___ Lý	___ Hoàng	___ Đặng	___ Ngô	___ Đỗ
___ Phan	___ Hồ	___ Bùi	___ Võ	___ Đinh
___ Vương	___ Trương	___ Châu	___ Trịnh	___ Lương



### 1.15 Tên anh viết thế nào? – How to write your name?

Listen as six people below spell their name, then number the names spelled from 1-6.

Audio #1.15: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-listening>

- a. Mai-Linh #\_\_\_ d. Trân-Châu #\_\_\_ e. Lan-Chi #\_\_\_  
 b. Trung-Thành #\_\_\_ c. Nam-Phong #\_\_\_ f. Việt-Phuong #\_\_\_

## 4 Introducing people



### 1.16 Introducing others informally and formally

Audio #1.16: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>



Đây là bạn trai (của) mình.  
Anh ấy tên là Liêm.

Đây là Nga, là bạn  
gái (của) tôi.

Lulu là con chó  
của mình.

Con mèo của mình  
tên là Mimi.

a.

Hòa Cô Karen, đây là chị Mai.  
 Karen Chào chị.  
 Mai Chào cô.

b. Thọ comes to join the group. Karen introduces Thọ to Hòa and Mai formally.

Karen Anh Thọ, tôi xin giới thiệu với anh: đây là anh Hòa và chị Mai.  
 Thọ Rất vui được gặp anh chị.  
 Hòa Rất vui được gặp anh.  
 Mai Chào anh.

**đây là** – here is (informal intro.) **bạn gái** – girlfriend

**bạn trai** – boyfriend

**xin** – to request; to beg

**giới thiệu** – to introduce

**Tôi xin giới thiệu..** – May I introduce ...

**với** – with

**với anh** – with you

**rất vui được gặp** – very glad to meet you





### 1.17 Introductions

- Work in groups of three. Take turns introducing
  - two people informally. Example: *Đây là Mark và đây là Helen.*
  - your new Vietnamese boss to your friend formally. Ex. *Xin giới thiệu với chị, đây là \_\_\_\_.*
- Now pretend you are a teacher, a parent, and a student and introduce one another formally using appropriate terms of address and reference.
 

\***con** – pronoun referred to oneself when talking with one's parents.



### 1.18 Greeting and self-introducing

- Write a dialogue for the following situation using the English prompts as guides.  
Hải (27-year-old male) and Minh (45-year-old male) meet for the first time.
 

Hải greets Minh:	Hải: Chào _____.
Minh returns the greeting.	Minh _____.
Hải introduces himself and asks Minh's name.	Hải: _____?
Minh replies.	Minh: _____.
- After completing the above dialog, practice it with a classmate.

## 5 Talking about nationality



### 1.19 Country, nationality, and language

Audio #1.19: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>

COUNTRY - NƯỚC		NATIONALITY – QUỐC TỊCH	LANGUAGE – NGÔN NGỮ
<i>Australia</i>	(nước) Úc	người Úc	tiếng Anh
<i>Canada</i>	(nước) Ca na đa	người Ca na đa	tiếng Anh và tiếng Pháp
<i>Cambodia</i>	(nước) Cam-pu chia	người Cam-pu chia	tiếng Khơ Me
<i>China</i>	(nước) Trung Quốc	người Trung Quốc	tiếng Trung Quốc
<i>England</i>	(nước) Anh	người Anh	tiếng Anh
<i>France</i>	(nước) Pháp	người Pháp	tiếng Pháp
<i>Germany</i>	(nước) Đức	người Đức	tiếng Đức

<i>Indonesia</i>	(nước) In-đô-nê-xi-a	người In-đô-nê-xi-a	tiếng In-đô-nê-xi-a
<i>Japan</i>	(nước) Nhật (Bản)	người Nhật (Bản)	tiếng Nhật (Bản)
<i>Korea</i>	(nước) Hàn Quốc	người Hàn Quốc	tiếng Hàn Quốc
<i>Laos</i>	(nước) Lào	người Lào	tiếng Lào
<i>Malaysia</i>	(nước) Ma-lai-xi-a	người Ma-lai-xi-a	tiếng Ma-lai-xi-a
<i>The Philippines</i>	(nước) Phi Íp pin	người Phi Íp pin	tiếng Tagalog
<i>Thailand</i>	(nước) Thái Lan	người Thái (Lan)	tiếng Thái (Lan)
<i>United States</i>	(nước) Mỹ	người Mỹ	tiếng Anh
<i>Vietnam</i>	(nước) Việt (Nam)	người Việt	tiếng Việt (Nam)

\*More countries in Vietnamese: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv1>



## 1.20 Asking and stating nationality

Audio #1.20 & #1.20a (Vocabulary): <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>

Hoà introduces himself to Karen at a Vietnamese gathering.

Anh Hoà	Chào cô. Tên tôi là Hoà. Còn cô, tên cô là gì?
Cô Karen	Tên tôi là Karen.
Anh Hoà	Xin lỗi cô, cô là người nước nào?
Cô Karen	Tôi là người Mỹ. Còn anh?
Anh Hoà	Tôi là người Mỹ gốc Việt.

\*Vietnamese people do not use any title when giving their names. For example, Miss Karen could also introduce herself as:  
*Tôi là Karen.* (I am Karen.) NOT  
*Tôi là cô Karen.* (I am Miss Karen.)

**xin lỗi** – *excuse me*

**người** – *person*

**nước** – *country*

**nào?** – *which?*

**người Mỹ** – *American*

**gốc** – *origin*

**người Mỹ gốc Việt** – *Vietnamese American*

**người Việt gốc Thái** – *Thai Vietnamese*



## 1.21 Asking questions with *nào*

To ask **which** as in *what/which country*, the question word **nào** is placed after the noun, as in *nước nào?* **Which** country literally means *country which*. **Người** must be used before the name of the country when asking or stating nationality:

Anh Sean là **người** nước nào?

*Lit: Sean is a person [of] which country?*

Anh ấy là **người** Ca na đa.

*Lit: He is [a] person [of] Canada.*

Tôi là **người** Việt.

*I am Vietnamese.*



### Bài tập ngữ pháp 1.21

A. Complete the following sentences.

- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Ca sĩ Adèle là người _____.     | 4. Ông Hugh Jackman _____ Úc. |
| 2. Ông Armani _____ người _____ Ý. | 5. Bà Suzuki là người _____.  |
| 3. Ông Bảo Ninh _____ Việt.        | 6. Ông Bill Gates là _____.   |

B. Hà (20-year-old female) and Mary (21-year-old female) meet for the first time.

Hà greets Mary:

H: Chào bạn.

Mary returns the greeting:

M: \_\_\_\_\_

Hà says her name and nationality:

H: \_\_\_\_\_

Next, she asks for Mary's name and nationality:

H: \_\_\_\_\_

Mary answers:

M: \_\_\_\_\_



### 1.22 Asking and stating nationality

In pairs, take turns asking and telling the nationality of the people listed in the prompts below:

Ví dụ: anh Mike – American S1: *Anh Mike là người nước nào?* S2: *Anh ấy là người Mỹ.*

- |                        |                        |                         |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. anh James – England | 3. cô Nan – Thailand   | 5. ông Harris – Germany |
| 2. bà Miko – Japan     | 4. chị Hani – Malaysia | 6. em Nicole – French   |



### 1.23 Self-introduction

- Draft a short paragraph to introduce yourself (full name and nationality) before chatting via Google Hangouts or Zoom with a Vietnamese language exchange partner from: <https://www.mylanguageexchange.com>
- Now, in pairs, take turns pretending you are chatting with your new pen pal in Vietnam via Zoom or Viber video. Greet and introduce yourself to each other.



### 1.24 Nationality

Audio: #1.24 via <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-listening>

You will hear delegates at an international conference in Hà-Nội greeting and talking to each other. Listen to find out where they come from. Check the appropriate box for each person.

Name	Thailand	USA	England	China	VN	France	Japan	Indonesia
Nicole								
Lee								
Sunee								
Mayumi								
Budi								
Kristina								
Eric								
Misa								



### 1.25 Self-Introduction

Audio #1.25: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-listening>

Listen to the conversation. Peter meets Nam in front of a Vietnamese class.

Write Đ (*đúng*) if the statement is true and S (*sai*) if it is false.

1. \_\_\_ This is the first time they met.
2. \_\_\_ Nam is from Vietnam
3. \_\_\_ Peter is not American. He is English.
4. \_\_\_ This is a formal conversation.

## 6 Confirming and negating



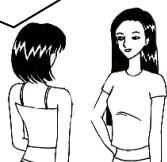
### 1.26 Chị là người Mỹ, phải không?

Audio #1.26: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>

a. Mai asks Karen:

-Chị là người Mỹ, phải không?

--Vâng. Tôi là người Mỹ.



b. Now, Karen is looking for a woman named Thu.  
She walks toward an older woman and asks:

Cô Karen Xin lỗi bà. Bà là bà Thu, phải không ạ?

Bà Lan Không, tôi không phải là Thu. Tôi là Lan.

phải không? – *isn't it?*

vâng/dạ [So] / phải – yes

không; không phải là – no; not to be



### 1.27 Confirming with *phải không?*

The question tag *phải không* is placed at the end of a statement to confirm that statement. To negate *là*, place **không phải** before it as shown in the below answers.

Statement,	are you not?	
Tên anh là Hùng,	<b>phải không?</b>	<i>Your name is Hùng, isn't it?</i>
Chị là người Việt,	<b>phải không?</b>	<i>You are Vietnamese, aren't you?</i>
Họ của em là Lê,	<b>phải không?</b>	<i>Your family name is Lê, isn't it?</i>
Answers		
Vâng.	Tên tôi là Hùng.	<i>Yes. My name is Hùng.</i>
Không.	Tôi <b>không phải là</b> người Việt.	<i>No, I am not Vietnamese.</i>
Không	Họ của em <b>không phải là</b> Lê.	<i>Yes, my family name is not Lê.</i>



### Bài tập ngữ pháp 1.27

A. How would you ask when you want to **confirm** that:

1. Chang is Chinese.
2. Meg is American.
3. Mai-Linh is Vietnamese.
4. a female classmate's family name is Nguyễn.
5. your male teacher's family name is Trần.
6. a male classmate's given name is Tadashi.

B. How would you **negate** when someone thought that:

1. your given name was Shannon
2. you were from England
3. your family name was Smith
4. your teacher of Vietnamese was from China



### 1.28 Using one term of address to convey three meanings

A. You are supposed to pick up a few people from the airport. You go ask to confirm if the following people are the ones you have been waiting for based on the model below. Write out your questions and improvised answers.

Ví dụ: a 25-year-old woman named Janet → *Xin lỗi chị. Chị là Janet, phải không ạ?*

1. an older man named Thành
2. a young female named Thanh-Hà
3. a 40-year-old man whose last name is Trần
4. an older woman whose last name is Nguyễn

B. Follow the prompts to write a dialogue for this situation. Do not translate the English prompts!

*Hung is supposed to meet Mrs. Lan for the first time at the airport.*

*Seeing a woman who is looking for someone, he approaches her.*

Hung asks politely if she is Mrs. Lan.

H: Xin lỗi \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

The woman says she is not.

W1: \_\_\_\_\_

In the meantime, another woman comes to Hung and asks if he is Hung. W2: \_\_\_\_\_

Hung says “Yes” and asks the woman her name. H: \_\_\_\_\_

The woman says she is Lan. W2: \_\_\_\_\_



### 1.29 Confirming and negating

A. In pairs, ask each other questions to confirm the nationalities of the below people.

Ví dụ: S1: *-Linh là người Việt, phải không?* S2: *-Vâng / Ủ/Ờ\*, Linh là người Việt.*

- |                    |                      |                           |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. anh Khoa - Việt | 3. anh Charlie - Anh | 5. cô Nan - Thái          |
| 2. ông Harris - Mỹ | 4. bà Miko – Nhật    | 6. chị Hani - Ma-lai-xi-a |

\**ừ / ờ* [Southern dialect] = yeah

B. Next, give a different nationality to the people above to practice responses in the negative form.

Ví dụ: S1: *-Anh Adi là người Pháp, phải không?*

S2: *-Không, anh Adi không phải là người Pháp. Anh là người In-đô-nê-xi-a.*



### 1.30 Greeting, confirming, and negating

In pairs, take turns being a teacher and a student to practice the scenario below:

- The student greets the teacher. The teacher greets him/her back and asks if his/her name is Mark and if he is from Germany.
- The student politely tells the teacher that her/his name is not Mark and he is not German.

#### *Đi hỏi về chào*

Children should ask grown-ups for permission before going out  
and greet them when they return

#### *Lời chào cao hơn mâm cỗ*

A greeting is worth more than an invitation to a feast

#### *Dao nãy liếc thì sắc, người nãy chào thì quen.*

Knives are sharp because they are often sharpened  
Strangers will become acquaintances if they often greet each other

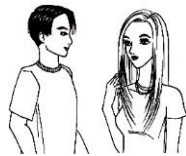
## 7 Expressions of courtesy

Vietnamese people say “*xin lỗi*” (*excuse/pardon me; sorry*) before or after they interrupt or disturb somebody, when they do not hear or understand what people said, and when they did something wrong. On the other hand, they do not often say “*cảm ơn / cảm ơn*” (thank you), especially between friends and family members. In many instances, a smile or a nod is sufficient.



### 1.31 *Cảm ơn bạn nhiều.*

Audio #1.31: <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-dialogs>



-Dạ, con xin lỗi mẹ.

-Cảm ơn bạn nhiều.

-Anh xin lỗi em.

-Không sao đâu con.

-Không có gì / Không có chi [So].

-Không sao, anh.

**xin lỗi** – *sorry; excuse (me); I beg your pardon; to apologize for*

**cảm ơn bạn nhiều** – *thank you very much*

**không có gì / không có chi [So]\*** – *you're welcome /it's nothing*

**cảm ơn / cảm ơn** – *to thank*

**không sao đâu** – *that's all right*

**\*[So]** - Southern dialect



### 1.32 *Nói thế nào?*

A. Write out what you would say and reply in the following situations?

1. You bump into a student on your way to class; **you say** to her:
2. A classmate lends you a pen; **you say** to him:
3. You arrive at class late; **you say** to your Vietnamese teacher:
4. A co-worker buys you coffee; **you say** to her:
5. An acquaintance thanks you for your birthday gift; **you say**:
6. A friend apologizes to you; **you say**:
7. You want to get someone's attention; **you say**:

B. Now, act out and practice the above expressions (1-7) with a partner.

# Từ vựng chủ đề

## Terms of address and reference

anh - *male acquaintance; older brother*

anh chị - *you (older acquaintances)*

bà - *Mrs.; grandmother*

bố / ba [So] - *father*

cháu - *niece; nephew; grandchild*

chị - *female acquaintance; older sister*

em - *student; younger sibling*

con - *offspring; classifier for animals*

cô - *female teacher; Miss*

mẹ / má [So] - *mother*

minh - *I (friendly; intimate); mine; my*

ông - *Mr.; grandfather*

tôi - *I; mine; my*

## Third pronouns and possessive pronouns

anh ấy, ông ấy, em ấy, thầy ấy, bạn ấy - *he; him, his*

chị ấy, cô ấy, bà ấy, bạn ấy - *she, her, hers*

## Greeting and asking names

chào - *to greet*

xin chào - *hello*

còn - *and, as for*

của - *of*

họ - *family name*

tên - *given name*

họ tên - *full name*

là gì? - *is what?*

tên đệm / tên lót [So] - *middle name*

thưa - *initial polite response particle*

ạ - *final polite response particle*

## Other people and pets

bạn - *friend*

bạn gái - *girlfriend*

bạn trai - *boyfriend*

con chó - *dog*

con mèo - *cat*

## Introducing people

đây là - *this is; here is*

gặp - *to meet*

với - *to; with*

rất vui được gặp - *very pleased to meet*

xin giới thiệu - *may (I) introduce*

xin lỗi - *to apologize*

## Asking and stating nationality

người - *person*

nước - *country*

nước nào? - *which country?*

người Mỹ gốc Việt - *VN American*

\*list of countries is on pages 9-10

## Confirming and negating

phải không - *isn't it*

không/không phải - *no; not to be*

vâng / phải - *yes*

## Expressions of courtesy

cảm ơn/cám ơn - *to thank*

không phải là - *not to be...*

không có gì/không có chi [So] - *you are welcome*

không sao /không sao đâu - *that's all right*

## Quizlet audio flashcards, audio programs, and other web-based learning materials:

<https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv-learningtools>

**Vocabulary & grammar practices:** <https://presslenguyen.wixsite.com/lenguyenpress/lsv1>

## Trước lạ, sau quen

First strangers, later (become) acquaintances (after greeting each other)