# **TOP TIPS for Practicing Hungarian**

Learning Hungarian can be a rewarding adventure—but we know it can also feel a bit overwhelming at times. Whether you're just starting out or already navigating the complexities of vowel harmony and cases, this collection of tips is here to support you. Let's dive in and make Hungarian a little less intimidating—and a lot more fun!



## **VOCABULARY LEARNING**



# Look for the Hungarian language everywhere:

in shops, on public transport, on signs, in restaurants, at the university.



# If you aim to learn word forms with the correct accents from the beginning, pronunciation,

comprehension, and learning suffixes will be easier later (e.g., olvasok – I read, főzök – I cook).



#### **Keep a vocabulary notebook** where you write down new words, and be

down new words, and be amazed every day at how many words you already know.



## Learn lots of set phrases and fixed expressions

- they're useful in unexpected situations and help you remember and understand grammar rules.



## Use words in phrases and write them down

like that in your notebook (e.g., red apple – piros alma; I am walking in the park – a parkban sétálok).



## Irregular forms exist in every language –

don't stress about them. Instead, write them on a separate note and review them often when studying grammar.



# Stick Post-its all around your home: the more often you see the words/expressions, the easier you'll remember them.



#### **Use flashcards**

(on paper or online, e.g., Quizlet).

# BASIC KNOWLEDGE AND RULES



What you're used to **placing** before the word in English, put after the word in Hungarian. For example:

- in the house → a házban at 8 o'clock → 8 órakor
- → after dinner → vacsora után



The most important rule from the beginning is **vowel harmony** – it will accompany you throughout your learning journey.



At first, feel free to use English word order – just make sure to use the **correct endings!** Later, as you gain confidence, the freedom of Hungarian's flexible word order.



Initially, it's easiest to use **formal language** (using "Ön" for "you") – everyone will find you **very polite**, and you only need to use the dictionary form of the word in your questions.

#### **ONLINE OPPORTUNITIES**



**FOLLOW** a Hungarian singer, musician, actor, writer, food blogger, athlete, psychologist, lifestyle coach, or anyone you like on Facebook or Instagram. This way, you'll see Hungarian posts every day.



**WHAT'S YOUR HOBBY?** What interests you most? **Search for it in Hungarian** on Google.



**ASK ChatGPT** to create a one- or two-day itinerary for a Hungarian city of your choice, and **go explore** the country!



If you don't have anyone to practice speaking with, **TALK TO ChatGPT** for a few minutes **every day** (even out loud).



While exercising, cleaning, traveling, or cooking, **LISTEN** to Hungarian radio or podcasts on a topic you like (pay attention to intonation and pronunciation).



**SEARCH** for a top **Hungarian music playlist** on Spotify and just listen.

### **COMMUNICATION AND USAGE**



Use what you've already learned whenever you can.



Don't be afraid to **repeat** what others say – don't worry about being corrected.



Communicate with questions like children do: What is this? What is he/she doing? Why? Then repeat the answer just like kids do.



Again, using **formal language** at the beginning is easiest – people will find you very polite, and you only need to use the dictionary form of the verbs in your questions.



Don't only go to places where there are foreigners – just sit and **listen to conversations**. It's okay if you don't understand everything. Focus on intonation, reactions, and pronunciation!





Why to register? Learning Hungarian starts here:

- register for free
- access culture-specific language training
- practice at your own pace
- learn phrases for everyday situations

The programme meets the output requirements of CEFR level A1







