**VERB TO BE**

To be or not to be that is the question. (Shakespeare)

**Byť alebo nebyť to je otázka.**

Ja som Slovák. Ja nie som Angličan.

Ty si Čech. Ty nie si Poliak.

On je Francúz. On nie je Talian.

Ona je Slovenka. Ona nie je Angličanka.

Ono je dieťa. Ono nie je dieťa.

To je sestra. To nie je sestra.

My sme Slováci. My nie sme Taliani.

Vy ste Angličania. Vy nie ste Američania.

Oni sú Nemci z Berlína. Oni nie sú Rakúšania zo Salzburgu.

Ony sú Slovenky. Ony nie sú Slovenky.

Nie, nie som. No, I am not.

**Task- úloha**

Put the verb in brackets in the correct form of the present tense to complete the sentences:

Slová v zátvorke dajte do správneho tvaru v prítomnom čase.

1. Ony …….…… (byť) na Slovensku.
2. Mária ……… (byť) v Oxforde.
3. Ja nie………. (byť) professor.
4. To …………. (byť) hotel.
5. Ty ……………(byť) študent.

**Etiquette and addressing people in Slovak**

In Slovak the forms used when talking to a stranger or to a person one does not know well, or one is paying respect are different from those used when talking to friends or family members.

When addressing a person whom one is meeting for the first time, or in a formal situation,

the form **Vy** is used (like the French *vous),* and when addressing friends, members of the family, or children, the form **ty** is used (like the French *tu*).

The tendency today, particularly among young people, is to say **ty.** Colleagues at work usually say **ty** to each other. However, rules of etiquettes might be applied.

**Examples:**

Vy ste pani Mária Nováková?

Vy ste pán profesor Smrek? (Notice two titles: pán and profesor, like in German)

Ty si Janko? Nie? Ako sa voláš? Aháááá, no dobre, ty si Janíčko.

Kto ste Vy? Kto si Ty?

**Prosím *(Please)***

The word Prosím is used a lot in Slovak; the reason for this is that it can mean many things.

Literally, Prosím means *please* and it is used when *please* is used in English. In addition, it means all the following:

* *I beg your pardon?* Indicating that one did not hear what the person said and asks them to repeat it. *(Prosím? Nerozumiem)*
* *Yes, please?* or *How can I help you?* In a bar ordering a drink or in a shop waiting to be served. ( Prosím. Tu je váš koňak)
* *hello* when answering the telephone (Prosím. Tu je Mária)
* *hello* when answering the door (Prosím, nech sa páči.)
* *you’re welcome* as a reply to “Thank you”. (A : Ďakujem. B : Prosím)

***Prosím si (***Asking for people, drinks, food…)

*A : Čo si prosíte, kávu alebo čaj?*

*B : Prosím si kávu.*

*1 : Prosím si pána Nováka. Je tam?*

*2: Ľutujem. Pán Novák tu dnes nie je.*