

# Sounds of Joy



# Hello and Thank You

Learning to say "Hello" and "Thank You" in another language is one of the simplest yet most powerful ways to connect with people from different cultures.

These two phrases – a greeting and an expression of gratitude – are universal gestures of respect and warmth that transcend borders.

Whether you are traveling abroad, welcoming a new neighbor, or simply expanding your horizons, learning basic greetings in the world's languages opens doors to understanding, friendship, and shared humanity.



Language	Hello	Thank You
Spanish	Hola	Gracias
French	Bonjour	Merci
German	Hallo	Danke
Italian	Ciao	Grazie
Portuguese	Olá	Obrigado / Obrigada
Russian	Здравствуй (Zdravstvuyte)	Спасибо (Spasibo)
Greek	Γεια σου (Yia sou)	Ευχαριστώ (Efcharistó)
Dutch	Hallo	Dank je
Polish	Cześć	Dziękuję
Mandarin Chinese	你好 (Nǐ hǎo)	谢谢 (Xièxiè)
Japanese	こんにちは (Konnichiwa)	ありがとう (Arigatō)
Korean	안녕하세요 (Annyeonghaseyo)	감사합니다 (Gamsahamnida)
Hindi	नमस्ते (Namaste)	धन्यवाद (Dhanyavaad)
Thai	สวัสดี (Sawasdee)	ขอบคุณ (Khob Khun)
Vietnamese	Xin chào	Cảm ơn
Indonesian / Malay	Halo	terima kasih
Arabic	مرحبا (Marhaba)	شكرا (Shukran)
Hebrew	שלום (Shalom)	תודה (Toda)
Turkish	Merhaba	teşekkür ederim
Filipino / Tagalog	Kumusta	Salamat

# Learning about other Cultures

In many cultures, greetings involve more than just words. In Japan, a bow often accompanies Konnichiwa.

In India, Namaste is paired with palms pressed together. In Thailand, the wai – a slight bow with hands together – goes hand in hand with Sawasdee.

In Portuguese, Obrigado is used by male speakers and Obrigada by female speakers.

Whenever you can, observe and mirror the local customs that accompany spoken greetings – it shows extra respect and care.

